

The Club Woman

The Official Organ of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Official Organ of the National Congress of Mothers.

The Official Organ of the United States Daughters of 1812.

The Official Organ of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs.



CONTENTS



Notes	295
Negro Women's Club Work—Mrs. Booker Washington	296
The Woman Question—Clara S. Carter	297
Forming the Club	298
National Society of New England Women	301
United States Daughters of 1812	301
Open Parliament—Emma A. Fox	302
University Extension	303
General Federation News	305
National Congress of Mothers	308
Massachusetts State Federation News	311
Other State News	311-320
Domestic Science — Marion A. MacBride	320

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NOTES.

Smiling May .

Please renew your subscription before the club year closes.

Beautifully engraved invitations have been sent to leading club women for the dedication exercises to the Louisiana Purchase Centennial Exposition at St. Louis, April 30th and May 1st.

The June number will contain a full report of the annual convention of the National Congress of Mothers, which will be held in Detroit the first week in May. This will be the authentic, official report, in which club women as well as mothers will be greatly interested. State correspondents will please refrain from sending anything for that number.

If you are going to Europe this summer you cannot do better than to send for the itineraries of Cook's Tours (advertised on another page). Everything is done for you at the lowest possible prices, and the annoyances of travel reduced to the lowest possible degree. Write them.

Mrs. Charles K. Rhodes, whose lecture on Wagner was such a fine feature of the last biennial, has just returned from a very successful trip to the Pacific Coast. She had a host of engagements all along the way and made what might almost be termed a triumphal tour, so warmly was she received in all the Western towns and cities where she appeared. As usual, she was accompanied by the concert pianist, Adolph Glose, who illustrated her lecture with musical interpretations, which added much to the pleasure and value of Mrs. Rhodes' unique entertainment.

Andrew D. White, who has been resting quietly in Italy since his release from the cares of the German Embassy at Berlin, has just sent to "The Century Magazine" the first part of a manuscript upon which he has long been engaged, consisting of reminiscences of his diplomatic life. The present part covers his recollections of Beaconsfield, the Emperors William I. and Frederick, Bismarck, Browning, and other famous European statesmen and writers. Further papers will include recollections of his recent embassy to Berlin. Dr. White, who is a graduate of the famous Yale class of '53, has filled many diplomatic positions, beginning with an attaché-ship of the United States legation in St. Petersburg when he was a very young man. He was special commissioner to Santo Domingo in 1871, commissioner to the Paris Exposition of 1878, minister to Germany 1879-81 (his first mission to Germany), minister to Russia 1892-94, member of the Venezuelan Commission of 1896-97, member of the Peace Commission at The Hague, and ambassador to Germany (his second mission) from 1897 until his recent resignation and retirement. The recollections of such a life are sure to be of very great interest. The papers will begin to appear in an early number of "The Century."

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NEGRO WOMEN'S CLUB WORK.

Mrs. Booker Washington.

N the recent unusual discussion of what is called the Negro Question, some writers have asserted that it is impossible for anything good to come "out of Nazareth." A bit of encouragement has come to us in an editorial in a New York magazine. The writer says: "In judging a race, one must never consider its dregs, but only its efflorescence."

It is rather in defense of Negro women club workers that I have been led to write a brief account of the work that they are doing for the betterment of the race. These women have been well equipped for the work. They are graduates of Hampton, Fisk, Atlanta, Howard in Washington, Spellman Seminary, Scotia Seminary, Wilberforce, Tuskegee, Oberlin College and the high and normal schools of the East and West. They are earnest in their desire to labor for their people. Scattered in the various sections of the United States are five hundred and more well organized clubs which have for their object, not only the general improvement of the members, but in addition, and mainly, the helping of the Negro race to better things.

For the sake of united effort one hundred and sixty-five of these clubs belong to the National Association of Colored Women, organized in 1894. Its motto is "Lifting as we climb." Representative women of the Northeastern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, numbering fifty-five clubs, and of the Southern Federation, numbering forty clubs, are active members of this National body. The Association meets biennially, including in its body both the federated and single clubs.

The Northeastern Federation of Clubs, located in the northeast, as its name implies, meets annually. The clubs reach the masses of the people who have gone North from the South. Hundreds have little idea of proper home life. Many of the younger generation need an impetus along literary lines. The literary clubs fan this into a flame and many of the rising young readers and elocutionists have received their inspiration from these organizations. Many young girls from the South have met pitfalls for the unwary in the large northern cities. Several organizations in the Northeastern Federation have been able to establish homes for this class. The girls have comfortable rooms, are taught in the domestic classes of the home, and in a way are better prepared to do the work found for them later. The clubs support the work and are meeting with marked success. Homes for the aged and orphans are receiving substantial aid and the effort is surely resulting in the development of true womanhood.

Working towards the same end, in various ways, are the clubs of the Southern Federation, organized four years ago. The leaders assert that the one-room cabin and regulation corn bread and fat bacon diet are a menace to proper moral and physical development. From Virginia to the Gulf this diet obtains among the poorer classes. As long as a large family must be brought up under these conditions, the atmosphere of the home must be tainted. Poverty has kept the growing family of thousands in the one room cabin. The masses have not been taught the way out, and the club women of the Southern Federation are working to teach the mothers that their surroundings are hampering their children, body and soul. The fathers and mothers are seeing the light and are making a way to save their meagre earnings and are buying homes of their own. The signs of the times are hope-

ful in this direction. Thus the clubs of the Southern Federation are laboring along different lines from the Northeastern because the conditions met with are so dissimilar.

As the mothers must be reached, the utmost importance is attached to the organizations of Mothers' Unions. Effort is made to establish these in every town and hamlet of the South. In planning the work for these women, particular stress is laid upon the beautifying of home, the care of children and pre-natal influences.

Not second in importance to these Mothers' Unions are the day nurseries and kindergartens for little ones. It is impossible to tell the wealth of good that has resulted from the support of these organizations that the clubs have given in large cities and towns where the little ones would have been vilely depraved by their older companions. In Atlanta, Rome and Macon, Georgia, are kindergartens that are supported by clubs of that state. They pay the rent of the buildings used and the salaries of the teachers. In several instances the clubs are depositing money in banks to purchase buildings for this work.

The clubs of Alabama are much agitated over the question of a reformatory for small boys who are constantly being sent off to the coal mines, to be worked side by side with the worst sort of criminals. This is a crying need all over the South for all boys, white as well as black.

The history of the life of one club connected with the Tuskegee Institute is the history of many. The club is composed of fifty women, teachers or the wives of instructors of the institution. They have come from the best schools of the country.

The club was organized in 1895. At the semi-monthly club meetings their literary life is renewed by programmes consisting of papers, music, debates, current topics discussed, and the study of the lives of authors and their productions. The monthly parliamentary drills keep the members awake to the ayes and nays of business. The actual work of the club is done by divisions that have appointed leaders, who make monthly written reports to the club of the work done.

The club itself grew out of one of its present branches, the Mothers' Union. The union came into existence in 1892, from the fact that many Negro women from the plantations came into town on Saturdays. They stood on the street, dipped snuff or smoked their blackened reed pipes and talked to the men and women alike in rude familiarity. After their grievances had been well aired, and the day far spent, they bought their week's rations, cornmeal and bacon; their men, women and children from different plantation quarters clambered into their wagons and drove back to their cabins, singing and otherwise hilarious behind the inevitable team of mules.

Some of these country women were invited to a room rented over an old store. This was a diversion so rare that they were at first shy of accepting the invitation from a Negro sister whose advantages had been different. Ten women accepted at first and the lemonade and cake served broke the ice. After a confidential talk they were invited to come every Saturday. They came and brought other women and their children, boys and girls. The small room soon became too crowded and a much larger hall was rented. The women listened to talks on home life, home getting, gardening, and all of the little things that make life worth living. The number grew, the lives broadened. Slowly, but surely, there was a change wrought in the appearance of the street. Box furniture was made, and the women were taught how to make

their homes comfortable with little expense. Although the Union was organized principally for the country women, the town women attended. They brought their children and all contributed a mite towards carrying on the work. Eggs, chickens, nuts, persimmons and a few turnips or sweet potatoes were freely donated. A Men's Business League was formed by the townsmen who had become enthusiastic over the work of the women and children.

The girls were put into a division and taught to sew and cook. The cooking classes met in the morning every Saturday, the sewing classes in the afternoon. Over forty girls were placed in grades. The articles they cooked were purchased by friends and the expense of the rent and the like were met by the cooking classes. Northern friends donated dishes, and cooking utensils and the work went on apace. The girls were proud of the Dorcas Society.

Some of the small boys remained with their sisters in the sewing classes; others larger were organized into a Frederic Douglass Society. A box of tools donated by a friend made it possible for the boys to be taught how to make useful articles out of bits of wood.

The Ministers' Wives' Circle was the fourth division. It was an anomaly from the fact that denomination barriers were broken down, a most unusual thing to do among these people, and all joined heartily in receiving the general information that would aid in furthering the work of the various churches in the town and vicinity, the leader was a minister's wife, who could sympathize as well as advise. These women in turn organized Mothers' Unions in their churches, and today are supporting a city missionary, who is working most effectually with them. The monthly report of the leader is inspiring.

The Vesta Circle was the fifth to be organized and represented in the club. It was composed of young girls of the town whose advantages had placed them above the ordinary. As children, they had attended the training school and had come up through the grades into the normal classes. They had received exceptional home training and were ripening fit for the Master's use. In organizing the circle, their adviser planned to foster a taste for literary work, and to that end worked that they might be able to use their study to aid charitable purposes in their native town. Year after year the club has grown in strength as well as numbers. Although the organizer has passed on to another field, the work has not languished. Enthusiasm has not died in the hearts of these young people.

The eighth department of work is called the Plantation Settlement Work. This work also grew out of the Mothers' Union. Many of the country women were willing to learn; but there was a great need of an object lesson. The planter usually lives in the one-story "Big House," removed not far from the "Colored Folks' Quarters." Loose family relations have been a cancerous sore in the lives of these people; and it was for this reason the first plantation settlement was begun, much after the fashion of the college settlement in our large cities.

The owner of a two thousand acre plantation found it possible to farm his land at the cheapest means by buying the time of men who would otherwise have had to suffer imprisonment for minor offenses against the law. These men lived with their families in wretched poverty in the log cabins on the plantation. The children were growing up in helpless ignorance. Half-clothed, poorly fed, they eked out their miserable existence, living over and over again the same life, week

in and week out, month after month, breaking the monotony only by going to town on Saturday.

Some of the women came to the Mothers' meetings in town, and it was to follow these women into their homes that the settlement was made. The plantation owner, an ex-slave holder, gave the use of a vacant one-room cottage. It was thoroughly cleaned and some box furniture placed for the use of a young woman who was willing to open the way of life to those poor benighted people. She gathered the children into the Sunday School and then into the day school. An acre of land was given for a garden. The poor people gave all they could to support the work in the way of beans, greens, peas and other vegetables. In the book used to credit these donations one may read this day: Received from Mrs. Jones, one quart milk; from Mrs. Smith, three eggs; from Mrs. Peters, four potatoes, and so on down the line. The men and women soon attended the night school, and the Sunday School soon began to reach all those living on adjoining plantations.

The work enlarged and now the resident worker has a three-room cottage built on a ten-acre lot adjoining the large plantation. The children are taught market gardening, sewing and cooking, besides the rudimentary branches. One of the first boys of the settlement school is in one of the normal classes of the Institute doing well. School room, kitchen and living room are neatly fitted and the object lesson has come to stay. The work is represented in the club by an assistant in the Sunday School, who gives a written report of the work every month. The resident worker has had boys' and girls' circles and her Mothers' meetings—all are proving helpful.

The tenth department of the club, the Margaret Murray Washington Club, is as old as the club with which it is connected. It is composed of girls in the upper classes of the school. It is purely literary; but by means of its various features presented to the public, the girls have contributed each year from thirty-five to forty-five dollars towards the support of the outside work.

Today the Frederick Douglass Club and the Dorcas Societies are swallowed up in a night school for those who cannot afford to attend the day school. The work in Sloyd has given way to trades of masonry and carpentry every night for boys, and sewing and cooking for the girls of the town. These industrial divisions are still plodding on, faithful in that which is oft considered least. The Mothers' Union numbers three hundred.

Charity begins at home, saith one, and in the endeavor to fulfill the letter of the law, five other club representatives have in charge as many organizations with their branches among the young people of the school. These are Social Purity Circles, W. C. T. U. among the girls, and a Humane Society among all, and the friends in feathers and furs have much to be grateful for at the hands of the workers.

The Current History Circle is re-organized yearly with the election of the regular club officers and its work done in the interest of all club members has been most edifying. The Woman's Suffrage Division has a devout disciple for its leader, and now that disfranchisement has come to so many of the Negro race in the South, the small body of women suffragists are doing all in their power to teach all to educate the hand, head and heart and acquire those means that will help all to measure arms with the men and women of America.

The Negro club women are doing their share of lifting the race by helping the mothers first to see the light, for

"The bravest battle that ever was fought
'Twas fought by the mothers of men"—

THE WOMAN-QUESTION.

Clara J. Carter.



It is a subject which has been treated so often and so fairly in newspaper and magazine, in essay and volume, on platform and in pulpit, that one cannot hope to say anything notable or surprising in connection with it. One can only hope to say what is true. The savage of course finds very early and easily that the hut of earth, or of branches of the trees, as of the skins of animals will shelter him from the storm and icy winds; that fire will warm him and cook his food. He finds the use of the spear and of the paw, but aside from these few coarse instruments by which he lays hold upon the superficial and obvious forces of nature around him, the savage gets no control of the great complex powers in the midst of which he moves. These rough arts are for the maintenance of life, or for the qualification of the desire for possession, or for strife are all that he knows.

But now as society advances it becomes characteristic of it to take hold of the secret, occult, more recondite, finer forces which are involved in this great system of things in the midst of which we live, and by them all the time to be helping society forward. In all this reaching out after the forces impalpable, imponderable, which were hidden from the eye of man in his earlier development, grappling which as he advances, he is able more and more to lift himself up to greater control over forces and effects in society. Now precisely the same thing goes on in the moral and spiritual sphere as is going on thus in the physical. It is only as society goes forward to a point where it comes rightly to estimate and earnestly to require in the spiritual sphere what it has all the time been searching after in the physical, that woman as woman comes to be honored.

When civilization wants the finest force, the most subtle and ethereal that can be developed, in human society, in order to its own furtherance, when it seeks to unite beauty with strength, when it desires to lay its hand on everything that is finest, sweetest, noblest in mind and spirit and to bring that into action for the glory of God and for the welfare of the world, then is woman's opportunity, then will she have clubs multiplied and made to minister more and more richly and constantly to the furtherance of whatever is grandest, brightest and loveliest; because society has found its need of exactly that which she alone can supply, of that which is dominant because it is delicate, of that which governs because it is gentle, of that whose very frailty gives it strength and majesty.

It is in the midst of this movement that we club members stand, have been standing and are to stand in the years to come. It cannot be averted. The pressure of Christianity, which has always been toward woman an elevating faith, is powerful and continual in behalf of this movement, the mighty current of which fills the land, and the ripples of which encircle our feet. And so the question comes naturally how is this evolution to be attained?

It is not what does woman wish for herself; perhaps she does not always wish the wisest thing; if she does, she is the best interpreter of her own wishes. Certainly she desires, if she is wise, nothing that is artificial, nothing factitious, nothing that rests upon a mere finish. It is idle to paint lightning upon canvas and expect it to strike; to paint a sword and expect it to cut. Nothing is efficient except as it is real, and it is the real force of woman and not any unreal force

which may be attributed to her which civilization wants, which society is trying all the time, sometimes with an unconscious and inarticulate effort, to develop in her.

It is not mere ornamental service, with her only use to flash over society as the aurora in the northern skies flashes in the wintry nights, palpitating lovely, flinging its long banners of glory toward the zenith, but melting no snow, nourishing trunk, or branch, or root of no living tree. What society wants of woman is not that she shall be an object of worship, not the work shall be ornamental, but that it shall be a work in which the force of her nature, peculiar to herself as distinguished from man, shall be richly unfolded and nobly active, that the welfare of the world may be advanced and secured. And it is very easy, going into particulars, to see what society needs. It needs general intelligence, for example, on the part of woman; that training of the mind, that filling of the mind with varied, accurate and quickening knowledge which shall bring the mind into the interior, subjective truth which has been described as the agreement of the mind with itself, and which shall make that mind quickening, enlightening and reinforcing to society where it touches it! This is the privilege of woman, and it is the demand which society, for its own interest and welfare makes upon woman.

As constituting numerically more than half of every community, as sustaining the most intimate relations as wife, mother, sister and friend, as having by nature that subtle, keen and pervasive quality of mind which impresses and molds others, woman necessarily must regulate the moral and intellectual tone and largely set the standard of any civilized society. Therefore it is that general intelligence is needed in her that she may exalt communities, otherwise she debases and pulls down the strongest state. Educated womanhood is always necessary.

But special training is needful. This arresting a peculiar power and attempting to turn it to something for which it is not adapted, is like trying to make a greyhound pull a wagon. Of course a general training is important to the development of a special power, it is needful for the manifestation and culture of special forces.

But we want the special forces, too, God makes no superfluous soul. Woman's nature is the converse of man's. There is sex in souls (in a sense) and her moral nature is thinner, more delicate, more deep, more intuitive than man's, having greater prominence in itself and able always to refine, instruct, enable his. You do not want to make a woman like another man in her moral nature, but to unfold that which is peculiar to itself and give it its royal place and power in the world. It is by positive force of character that this world is to be educated and carried forward.

What society wants of woman is the utmost development of the positive feminine moral force in her spirit and her life. Woman has been said to be the conscience of the world, and there is profound truth in that. It was the conscience of Blanche of Castile which melted the noblest king France ever had, Louis the Ninth. It was the sense of righteousness in the Scotch, in the Dutch, in the French, in the German sink and die. It was the conscience of the American woman which was the one invulnerable, irresistible, unsilenced enemy of American slavery. That conscience of woman is the tower which society will always need to have developed and regnant within it, and there is no other office so great.

Then sympathy. Of course that is more native to woman's heart than in man's; she seems unsexed without it.

It is reported of a famous woman in Boston that once as she was passing a large house by the street side she saw upon it, "Charitable Eye and Ear Hospital," and she said in her sarcasm: "Dear me, I didn't know there was one charitable eye and ear in Boston!"

Well, there would not be if it were not for women. Sympathy in woman comes nearest to the heart of Christ, sympathy for the erring, the sick and suffering. That is the power which she needs to contribute to society. Her sympathy is the heat ray combined with the light ray in the perfect sunbeam, and wherever it goes there flower charities, asylums, and all institutions of human benevolence spring naturally, as the bloom of the flowers from the sod which the sun has warmed. Then woman's courage.

We are so accustomed to associate courage with physical strength that we do not often, perhaps, or always think of it as pre-eminently a womanly grace when the feminine nature has been fully unfolded and trained, but it is. The reckless rapture of self-forgetfulness, that which inspires persons and nations, that which is sovereign over obstacle and defeat, and peril and resistance, it has belonged to woman's heart from the beginning.

In the early Pagan time, in the Christian development, in mission and in martyrdoms it has shown in the medieval age as well as in our own time, in the Prussian woman after the battle of Jena, when Prussia seemed trampled into the bloody mire under the cannon of Napoleon. Oh, the passion, the forgetfulness, that supreme self-devotion with which woman flings herself into the championship of a cause that is dear, and sacred and trampled under foot! It is her crown of renown, it is her staff of power! This conscientiousness in woman, this sympathy, this courage and self-devotion in woman give her her place in the future civilization of the world and glorify the society in which she is born and in which she becomes the mistress. And then the fine, just sensibility, that intuitive discernment of God, which brings the grandest theme of the universe into intimate contact with the moral life of mankind, that is the prerogative and privilege of woman.

Man hunts after God with his understanding and fails, often, to find Him; science reaches after God with its lenses and its face seems like a blind man trying to help his sight by using a glass eye; logic tries to soar toward God and waves its wooden crutches in mimicry to witness; woman sees Him, feels him within, discerns Him above, sees Him in Christ. She feels Him in the deepest experiences of life, and then she sees Him in all the providential history of the world, in all creation. It is by the heart of woman filled with the Divine power and beauty that the world is to have everywhere and retain immortally the vision of God. One of the most foolish questions ever asked is: What is going to be the sphere of woman when she is so educated?

The sphere? If she don't make her own we may stop prophesying. You see the little ridge among the mountains, a thread of water, and you see it arrested by rocks, and you see more and more as it fills the chasm behind them till it cuts its way across the rock, and through the rock and at last you go into the gorges and see the mighty chasms that have been cloven through the rocky hills, and there is the power that has done it. That little stream has made its sphere.

The woman's nature, cultured as we have suggested, will make this thing form a part of it. In the home how her influence works. In society woman is the queen, she ripens its manners, its laws, its tastes, its aspirations. As related to political life it will govern where political life is merely for the exterior advance of it. In education her nature demonstrative and distributive, her interest in persons stronger than man's, in itself more intense, the work of education is marvelous in every department of life. With consciousness of power comes the temptation to use it for selfish ends—a course which must seriously interfere with the expression of the divine ideal.

Thought and action, word and deed, need to be brought into perfect unity and harmony on the plane of the broadest human attainment of the present day. Should we, then, be discouraged in our efforts for individual advancement? As well-rounded spiritual and moral character becomes the goal of mankind, and the search for harmony is made within rather than without, ideal conditions will become manifest.

FORMING THE CLUB.

SHE was young and she enthusiastic, so when a students' art class was projected,—she being new in the club business, seized the chance avidly and said, "I'll organize it."

Well, the object was simply to have a club department in art, drawing from life under a director. The director "found himself," and conference began.

"We want it large, so we can pay you," said she to the director.

"Well, I am quite willing to take very little till it's perfectly easy," he answered.

She prepared for the first meeting by asking all her available acquaintances, and then set a night for it.

"We'll have it at my house," said she, "afterwards we can meet at the club room. People are more apt to come to your house for a first meeting, than if you just ask them to a club room to organize."

The night finally set for the meeting fell very cold. After dinner the time wore slowly. One lady sent word that she could not come. "That leaves me only four positive ones," she lamented. "You all must let us have a room to ourselves," to the family. The first ring at the bell caused a slight scattering, speedily re-arranged by the entrance of a caller for her sister.

"They can have the parlor; I'd just as soon have the library," said she.

After a period of time, another ring.

The director.

"Nobody else coming, it's so late," she mourned. "You might as well sit still," she told the family.

They—the director and she—talked about the class. It must be a class—not a club—she was advised by the family.

"We'll organize the club—class anyway," she proclaimed, "no one else is here, but that makes no difference. I'll draw, the director can criticize—I'm going to have that class!"

The director suggested that he would be willing to send post-cards to a suitable number of draftswomen, and a list was begun.

"Take all the good ones first, of course," she said, and rapidly put down a dozen names. "Now, who else?"

A mental struggle on the part of the family, aided by the director, enabled her to add a few more names, in the thick of it, the bell rang again.

Another member. But the family was still not driven forth, and there commenced a cross-fire of small talk between the husband of the member and the family, and class talk among the three. She said, "Now let's organize. Of course, I'll be president. I have a right; it's my class."

"You," to the member, "can be secretary and treasurer. Now then, let's have the constitution. Name first, 'Woman's Drawing Circle?'"

"Oh, do have the Woman's out," interposed the family, "that dreadful, tiresome 'Woman' in everything! Why insist so everlastingly on the palpable fact?"

But the family was overruled. "The officers, president, secretary and treasurer, director; that's all settled. Now the admission of members. Who'll admit 'em?"

"The officers?" ventured the family.

"I guess not," she declared, "it's all right while I'm president. I won't do anything nasty. Neither will you," to the member, "but I'd like to see the officers I'd trust to admit me to a club! No, sir, the members have got to vote on every name. Three negatives defeat. That ends that."

"Now one thing," the director began, "make a rule about control. Members must submit to the rules of the director."

"Doesn't the fact of the office of director make his control an understood rule?" the family hazarded. "Don't you admit weakness if you have too much bolstering?"

Silent scorn was all the answer.

The officers swept gallantly on to the end of a constitution of twelve articles, and seventeen by-laws. At a point in the discussion the family and the member's husband were ignobly ejected; and after a heated session the class triumphantly adjourned—organized!

AMEN!

The following paper was read before the Friday club of Hillsboro, Ohio, and heartily endorsed by its members. They resolved to take effective steps to inaugurate a movement for the suppression of the comic valentine in its present disgraceful form.

The Friday Club requests the editor's influence and assistance in interesting all fathers and mothers in this good work.

A Protest.

I wish this club could go on record as making a vigorous and much needed protest against the comic valentines of today. There is nothing humorous or amusing about them, on the contrary, they are coarse and vulgar in the extreme.

They are a base libel on our far famed American sense of humor. It is degrading for our children to read and handle them. The unseemly pictures are bad enough. Most mothers content themselves by destroying the doggerel verse found on each of them and having the pictures for the children to exchange.

But this is not sufficient. The effect of such a thing countenanced, even in this negative way is most demoralizing. All the verses cannot be kept out of circulation.

Some time ago I read that the man who originates most of these vile things lives in Cincinnati. Even his name was boastfully published. It is certainly surprising that he has not been severely dealt with long ago by right-minded citizens. It is strange that ministers of the gospel pay no attention to this evil. It may seem a little thing, but I assure you it is not, and it seems to increase each year.

It is contemptible that any grown person, with a brain, should dare call such indecent 'docy, "comic."

Everyone, who notices them at all, deprecates their vulgarity, but no one takes steps to alter it.

The mothers of this country must take it in hand since no one else does.

Men say, they please the public or there would be no demand for them and they would not be made. Who buys them? Innocent young people and children who, fortunately, do not half comprehend their meaning. But they learn, in this way, coarse language and vile jokes which they should never hear, and never do hear in respectable families.

I say, let club women, the world over, boycott the comic valentine. It has poisoned the pure atmosphere of childhood long enough, and it must go. It will go, too, when true women rise in their might and say the word.

Since valentines are intended for merry-making, can they not be elevated to a plane of pure and harmless fun?

Let us petition the "Club Woman" to inaugurate this most necessary reform. It is an honor to be the pioneers in such a movement. That the foul language of these valentines should ever appear in print is bad enough, but that it should assume a shape that appeals to children seems criminal. Every mother feels this and it is time that this demoralizing agent should be entirely eliminated from our lives. I could quote verses which would bring a blush of shame to a reprobate's hardened cheek and yet they are freely sold in respectable stores to young boys and girls.

It is all very well to waive aside the responsibility by saying, "Evil to him who evil thinks." Mothers and fathers are responsible for their children's purity and, "You cannot touch pitch and not be defiled."

Therefore, for the blessed children's sake, let every individual woman pledge herself to talk, write and use her influence against this public nuisance,—The Comic Valentine.

MISS EVA RICHARDS, President.

MRS. MARILOU C. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

THIRTY-THREE DELIGHTFUL VIEWS

From the Charles River to the Hudson.

In addition to the five exquisite portfolios of views published by the Boston and Maine Railroad is a new and charming album of the same size containing thirty-three pictures portraying views along a section of country which is noted for its delightful scenery. Commencing with the Charles River and the historic grounds of Waltham, Concord, etc., the scenes cover that entire portion of Massachusetts and New York which borders on the Fitchburg division, reaching as far West as the Hudson, including

The famous old historical spots, the wild waterfalls and foaming cataracts, the rare and delightful vistas, seen only in certain quiet havens along the Charles River, the fertile valleys which stretch beneath the towering peaks of the Hoosac Mountains, the winding course of the Hoosick River which will immediately impress the visitors with a true idea of nature's ability as a landscape artist, the gaping portals of that master-piece of human skill, the Hoosac Tunnel, with a train emerging, the peerless bridges and mountain scenes of eastern New York and the wonderful views of Saratoga with its parks and broad avenues, and, best of all, a life-like picture of the famous race track.

No lover of natural scenery should be without this choice collection of views, and the traveler who has once seen this grand region, can revel again in this choice vacation boundary.

This portfolio will be mailed to any address upon receipt of six cents by the Passenger Department, Boston and Maine Railroad, Boston.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND WOMEN.



ON MARCH 21st a musical treat was enjoyed by the society and their friends. A concert called "An Afternoon With American Composers," was given at the Waldorf-Astoria for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund. Well known musicians and composers played their own compositions and were assisted by artists of ability. Among those who took part were: Prof. Horatio Parker, of Yale University, Arthur Foote of Boston, Rubin Goldmark, Arthur Whiting, Henry K. Hadley and the Dannreuther Quartette. A reception was held at the close of the concert at which the officers of the society and the artists received. A special literary afternoon will be given on April 21st, at which Miss Annie Rust Phelps will read a scene from "The Hunchback." Miss Annie Jewell will give some piano selections and Dr. Edwin C. Browne will give a talk on the violins with a musical accompaniment.

The last luncheon will occur on April 28th. The toast will be "The New England Woman," to which Dr. Minot Savage will respond, referring to her mission in modern society.

Miss Mary Woolley, the president of Mount Holyoke College, will speak of her as pupil and teacher. Mrs. Samuel B. Larned, president of the National Household Economic Association, will refer to the New England woman as a housekeeper and home maker. Mrs. Charles W. Pickett will have for her subject, "The Modern Woman and Her Grandmother."

Mrs. Dore Lyon, president of Eclectic, will speak of the influence of the New England woman in the club. Music will be furnished by the New England Glee Club, which makes its first public appearance on that day. They will sing "Hurrah for Old New England" which song will be adopted by the society to be sung at all future meetings.

Miss Sally Frothingham Akers and Mrs. Antonia Savage Sawyer will also give some vocal solos.

The installation of officers and reading of annual reports will take place April 30th, which closes the year of the society and also brings to a close, the successful presidency of Mrs. I. Woolsey Shepard, who has exhibited great executive ability and tact in administering the duties of her office. This is her second term and it is with great regret on the part of the members that she retires from office. Her place will be ably filled, however, by the new president, Mrs. Philip Carpenter, who is an experienced club woman as well as a lawyer.

LUCY W. McLAUGHLIN,
Chairman Press Committee.

Do women possess a sense of humor? This is a question often discussed, with becoming gravity at women's clubs. Mrs. Florence Howe Hall believes firmly that her sex does possess this important sense, and she thinks it should be ministered to. Her new talks on this subject will be awaited with interest by those who know her reputation as a humorist and as a speaker. The New York "Tribune" says: "Mrs. Florence Howe Hall introduced a degree of hilarity not often encountered in the serious organizations known as women's clubs," and even in the sober Quaker City, the Philadelphia "Press" says: "Mrs. Florence Howe Hall of New Jersey, daughter of Julia Ward Howe, kept her hearers laughing and applauding until she was through." Mrs. Hall also announces: "The Club Woman and the Strenuous Life," and "Men, Women and Manners," among her new talks.

UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF 1812.

NATIONAL SOCIETY.



The executive board meeting of April 17 at the home of the National President, Mrs. William Gerry Slade was well attended. At the time of this writing all states have responded to the per capita tax except Massachusetts and Georgia, and we are informed that Georgia's is now on the way here. Even the newly organized states—Illinois and Delaware—which were officially exempt, have insisted in doing their share for the society's good and advancement. Nothing could speak more eloquently of loyalty and harmony and oneness of purpose than the promptness with which this request has been met. It is not in words but in deeds that the language of the heart is proven.

Miss Elizabeth Flather, of 20 Arlington street, Nashua, New Hampshire, has been appointed organizing president for the state of New Hampshire till January 8, 1904.

VERMONT.

Vermont celebrated the birthday of Andrew Jackson by a meeting at the home of Mrs. Henry E. Bond of Brattleboro (the second vice-president of the state of Vermont) on March 14th. Two papers were read on the life of Andrew Jackson—one by Mrs. J. Gilbert Stafford, historian, the other by Mrs. G. M. Love of Newfane, auditor. Mrs. Alice W. Bemis recited the story of the little sister's devotion to her brother, and vocal and instrumental music was rendered by the Misses Lena Eels and Helen Crosby, and by Master Louis Knight on the banjo, accompanied by his sister, Marion Knight.

The drawing and dining rooms were beautifully decorated with the society's flower—the white carnation—with a background of palms. Chocolate was served in the dining room by Mrs. W. H. Bond. Besides the above attractions a sale of fancy articles and flowers and homemade candy was held for the benefit of the society's patriotic work under the charge of Mrs. C. H. Thompson, Mrs. F. H. Holden being at the apron table, and Mrs. G. B. White at the flower table. Mrs. Carroll A. Moore of Bellows Falls and Mrs. Gilbert of Boston were among the many guests.

GEORGIA.

Miss Virginia A. Arnold, president of Georgia, has been so ill that she has been inclined to give up her position. But with returning health it is hoped she will resume the work with added interest.

MISSOURI.

The Missouri state president, Mrs. Western Bascome, was in attendance at the meeting recently held in the interests of the exposition in St. Louis and has forwarded for the society collection one of the souvenirs of that occasion. It is a red, white and blue ribbon attached to an ivory stick (with a bow of yellow ribbon at the top) and with the words "Welcome, St. Louis, 1904," printed on the red, white and blue.

DELAWARE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Delaware State Society of March 25, 1903, held at the home of the third vice-president, Mrs. Franklin J. Murphey, was a departure from

the regular program, it being the portion of the hostess upon this occasion not only to dispense hospitality, but assume charge of the program. The president, Mrs. Corkram, being detained by illness in her family.

Miss Blanken gave a full and interesting report of work accomplished. This report being followed by extracts from the "Club Woman," read by Miss Platt. The absence of Mrs. Knowles, who will soon become a member, meant the omission of "Maryland, My Maryland," the song so beloved by those of us who were raised on the shores of the Chesapeake. But the spirit of the occasion was manifested by a clipping from the Baltimore "Sun," written by Mr. Jenkins of that city, and which was read by Mrs. Moody. We wish this article were within reach of every reader of the "Club Woman," for, although addressed to a Maryland audience, it would appeal to every student of history. The article in effect is intended to inspire the people of Maryland with a true veneration for the day of her founding, for the men and women of St. Mary's who struggled to obtain a righteous municipal government, to establish religious freedom, to perpetuate the name of the "Peggy Stuart" and men brave enough to defy the tyrannical "red coats;" to teach our children to revere the memory of Calvert, as Stuyvesant and Peter Minuit are revered in New York, Roger Williams and John Endicott in the New England states, in which latter place every boy and girl from infancy is instilled with the wholesome lesson taught by the Boston "Tea Party" and the ride of Paul Revere. It is sad to admit how few of our children are familiar with the early history of the Maryland province so wisely and faithfully governed by the Lords Baltimore. Delaware hopes to have a "Maryland day," a "New York" and a "Penn day." To set apart and appropriate the one first characterizing each as a province, making such red letter ones. And we on the soil of the "Blue Hen's Chickens" (Delaware) have the temerity to set an example and in a small way, celebrate that landing at St. Mary's on the 25th of March, 1634.

Mrs. Taylor demonstrated a loyalty to her native heath by the familiar way in which she handled its history in a paper on "The Religious Freedom Accorded the Maryland Settlers." The meeting was a most interesting one, and included registrar's and delegate's report of the annual meeting held in January and express the appreciation we all felt at the kindly manner in which Delaware, the very youngest of the 1812 sisters, was allotted through her representatives, her place in the ranks of the society, and when its president was elected to an office on the national executive board as recording secretary. Each woman expressed herself as being in favor of our per capita assessment being paid in at once. The visit of a real daughter of one of the heroes of 1812, Mrs. Ferguson, gave zest to the February meeting. We will conclude this report by saying how very grateful we feel to Miss Mary Ridgely, one of our honorary vice-presidents, for the timely word dropped last November, the result of which is the organization of this society and we extend to her and to Mrs. Dupont the hand of good fellowship on their return from abroad.

NEW YORK.

New York has completed the pleasurable work which she assumed last year, viz: The furnishing of the drawing room in the Naval Home in Brooklyn. She has also completed the work of establishing the "Ruth M. Hardy Memorial Fund" for philanthropic work among her members. And for the accomplishment of both of these the society is largely indebted to

Mrs. J. Alexander Striker, New York state auditor. New York stands as the eighth in the payment of the per capita tax, and will have a large balance in the treasury at the close of the year. The next state meeting will be held at Delmonico's on Monday, April 20. Several interesting projects will be presented. Vocal music will be given by Miss Carroll and an illustrated lecture by Mrs. Mary Hatch Willard on "Jamestown and Historic Spots in Virginia."

May 2nd will be the annual meeting for the election of first vice-president, recording secretary and treasurer, and for four of the board of directors. This date for the annual meeting is the result of a recent amendment to the by-laws. All work for the season will close on June 2nd, though the usual entertainment will take place on June 18th.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The annual meeting of the State Society will be held in May, as will also the annual meeting of the Dolly Madison Chapter of Pittsburg. The regular meeting of the Keystone Chapter of Harrisburg was on Friday, April 3rd. It reported five new members since February. Mrs. B. R. Boggs was made temporary historian and Miss Fannie Ely chairman of the musical committee. Papers were read by Mrs. Sarah Holmes on "The Battle of Lake Erie," and by Miss Catherine I. Egle, on "Stephen Decatur." Luncheon was served after the exercises. Vocal solos were given by Mrs. T. B. Angell.

MAINE.

The last meeting of this society for the State of Maine, held at the home of the president, Mrs. Charles A. Dyer, on April 1st, was a large and enthusiastic one. The per capita tax was voted to be paid and other important business transacted. The interest of the society here is centered on the preservation of the Privateer "Polly," which took so prominent a part on this coast during the war of 1812. State and national congressmen have been conferred with, interest is being manifested throughout the state and Maine asks the other members of the society who are of Maine ancestry to join with them in this work.

MRS. WILLIAM GERRY SLADE.

OPEN PARLIAMENT.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

(Questions for this department should be sent to 21 Bagley Ave., Detroit, Mich.)



NE of our by-laws provides that active members shall consider themselves in honor bound to attend all meetings of the club and perform the literary and other work assigned them. Another by-law imposes a fine of ten cents for each avoidable absence. Many of our active members live in an adjoining town, attending the meetings only occasionally, voting on all questions when they are present, and yet claiming that they ought not to pay fines for absence.

The by-laws demand many things that a non-resident can not do.

One member moved that members out of town should be exempt from fines. If such a rule were adopted there are members living in town who for various reasons might as well claim to be excused from paying fines.

(a) Was the motion that members out of town be exempt from fines constitutional?

(b) Is it customary to make laws for individual members?

(c) Will you please tell us how to reach the root of this evil?

(a) The motion that members residing out of town would be exempt from fines could only be entertained under the same conditions that a motion to amend a by-law could be entertained, as it is plainly subversive of the provision of the by-law which you mention. Instead of such a motion, a motion to amend the by-law should be made.

(b) You would get into hopeless entanglement and confusion if you should undertake individual legislation.

When two or more persons are associated together in any capacity, there must be mutual concessions. In a club, all members must abide by the decisions of the majority of the members. Individual rules are no more practicable in a club than they would be in a community. Every individual who lives in a community must abide by the laws which are found necessary for the best good of the entire community, whether such laws are agreeable to him or not.

(c) You are at fault in making "demands," for the reason that if members are in "honor bound," each one must be allowed to judge for herself as to what she can do.

Your by-law, imposing a fine, seems impracticable. Those who are unavoidably absent do not pay a fine, and this leaves an opportunity for a difference of opinion as to whether the cause for absence was avoidable or not. A difference of opinion on such a question leads to bickerings and often engenders hard feeling. Who is to arbitrate in case of a difference of opinion? Surely the club cannot afford to use its time sitting as a court on a question of a ten-cent fine. Then, again, suppose a member absolutely refuses to pay a fine? Have you provided a penalty? The only penalty you could impose would be suspension of membership, and are you as a club willing to enforce such a penalty?

To reach the root of this evil, amend your by-laws so as to provide for the different classes of members, and have the duties, privileges, and dues of each class clearly stated, and then enforce your rules.

The presiding officer of our society recently proposed an amendment to the by-laws, and moved that it be adopted. The motion was carried. Now, in view of the fact that the president had no right to make a motion, was the by-law amended or not?

The vote which was taken by the society amended the by-law in spite of the irregularity connected with the making of the motion.

Our constitution says that no member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms, but the club wanted the president, who has served for the last two terms, to be re-elected for another year, for the reason that the State Federation is to be the guest of the club next fall.

A notice was sent to every member of the club three weeks before the annual meeting, that a motion would be made to suspend this clause of the constitution so as to allow the re-election of the president. It was done, and the election was unanimous, no one raising any objection. We have since been told that the election was illegal. If it was, what can be done about it now?

The action of your club was technically irregular in re-electing to office one who was ineligible. But because of the fact that notice of the proposed action was given in advance to every member of the club, and no one raised the point of order on election day, all must be willing to concede that the

president so elected is the president de facto, and that nothing can be done about it now.

If some other member claimed the office, so there was a contest between two for the presidency, the club would have to settle the question at issue, but as there is no contest, there is no necessity for taking any action whatever.

A rule of our club is to the effect that no member shall be eligible to the same office for more than two consecutive terms. A member was elected by the board about the middle of the year to the office of president, and at the end of the term was elected for another year. Is she eligible for re-election as she has not served two full years?

A part of a year is understood to mean a term in this sense, and she would therefore not be eligible for re-election.

Is it parliamentary for a society to elect to the position of honorary president a member who has never been president. That was recently done, and it has caused considerable dissatisfaction.

Such action is certainly very unusual, but there would seem to be no reason why a society should not confer the title of honorary president on whom it pleases. To prevent impulsive action in such matters, it is wise to have provisions in the by-laws as to the manner in which such honorary titles may be conferred. If they may be awarded easily, they are held in correspondingly light esteem.

It has always been the custom in our state for the president and executive board to appoint the Federation secretary.

Article IV., Section 5, of the by-laws of the General Federation of Women's Clubs begins: "It shall be the duty of each State Federation and each Territorial Federation to elect a Federation Secretary."

In view of that provision of the by-laws of the General Federation, ought the State Federation to elect the Federation Secretary?

The State and Territorial Federations may determine each for itself the manner of electing the Federation Secretary. The General Federation has no jurisdiction as to the manner of making such selection.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

By Zella Allen Dixon, A. M.



WHEN a woman first enters club life the thought that is uppermost in her mind is what a benefit the club is to be to her personally. How much she is to gain in inspiration for her own study, in actual information, and in pleasant friendly intercourse. As the years of her membership increase, there comes, half unrecognized by herself, a change in the manner in which she regards her club membership. She no longer thinks so much about the benefit to herself; she thinks of the rare opportunity and privilege it gives her of benefiting others.

In no department of the usual activities of a club is there more opportunity or greater privilege in helping others than in assistance given in connection with the modern library movement.

The world thus far, has seen two great library movements—the one coming in those ages which, for lack of a better name, we still call the Dark Ages—when the Benedictine Rule

"of work and prayer" gave literature and learning a new birth and planted the first system of reference libraries; the second, beginning with the passage of the Ewart bill, which gave England her splendid system of free circulating libraries, and ending with the establishment of free libraries, traveling libraries, prison and jail libraries, neighborhood and slum libraries, libraries for clubs, school children, farmers, employes of department stores and railroad systems. The first library movement had for its object the conservation of knowledge; the second, or present movement, the distribution of knowledge. Among all the agencies at work to-day to bring wholesome reading within the reach of the poor, the degraded, the desolate and the suffering, none is more energetic, resourceful, and efficient than the women's clubs.

In January of 1896 the Ohio State Legislature passed the act establishing the Ohio Library Commission, under whose charge the State Library was to circulate traveling libraries. This action was almost entirely due to the pressure brought to bear on the law-makers by the members of the women's clubs in Ohio, and these clubs were the first to take advantage of the arrangements for sending books to clubs and study-classes. In 1898 \$4000 was appropriated by the Ohio Legislature for the purchase of books to equip these traveling libraries. The first library sent out went to the Monday Club of Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

To-day, the various women's clubs, scattered throughout the state make a practice of sending each fall their programs and the lists of books they will need for the year's work to the headquarters of the Ohio Commission, thus insuring a more general use of the books bought with state money, by supplying the titles of the books most generally used by modern clubwomen. Since 1898 there has been an annual appropriation of money for the purchase of new books. All libraries go for a visit of three months and may be once renewed for the same time, if desired. There is no expense except for the transportation. The books are made up for each center from lists sent of the books most needed. Last year over seven hundred of these traveling libraries were sent on their mission of culture. In a large number of cases they went to localities where there were no libraries.

The traveling libraries of Kansas were first equipped in 1897, through the instrumentality of the club women of the state. The idea was first suggested by Mrs. Lucy B. Johnson, who was the chief inspiration in the matter. The State Federation of Clubs endorsed the movement and collected 3000 volumes from clubs and individuals to start the traveling libraries. In 1899 Kansas formed by enactment of law the "Kansas Traveling Libraries Commission," consisting of three persons, appointed by the Governor, who, with the president of the Kansas State Social Federation of Clubs, and the librarian of the State Library, have charge of sending out all libraries. A small fee of \$2 is charged for the use of a library for three months. Nearly two hundred libraries are now in circulation, going chiefly to women's clubs in small towns and rural communities.

In the state of Maine, also, the traveling libraries were inaugurated by the Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1898, the Legislature passed the bill establishing the Library Commission and an appeal was sent out by the Commissioners to all the women's clubs in the state, asking for books and money to equip libraries to be sent to small towns and to farming districts. The response brought a large number of books, so that the Commission was able to promise to send a library into any destitute or needy community without the

usual fee of \$5.00 for a three months' use of a library, as is charged to those who can afford to pay it. The club women in this state have also organized standing committee to hunt up centers where libraries should be sent, and have supplied other wants that investigation revealed. In 1900 this law was amended so as to require a fee of only \$2 for the usual library for three months' use. Women's clubs led also in the recent movement of giving to the Commission for general circulation, as soon as the club women were through with them, the books purchased by clubs.

In the passage of the act establishing a Library Commission and traveling libraries, Minnesota also had the support of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. This state charges no fee for the libraries, has an annual appropriation, and has received many gifts of libraries from clubs throughout the state, that were quick to follow the shining example of the Minneapolis Women's Council, that gave their beautiful thirteen libraries to help start the work.

In Idaho the Women's Columbian Club started the traveling libraries, intending to keep it as a club activity, but the popularity of the movement overwhelmed them and they took the matter to the Legislature, with the request for a State Commission for traveling libraries. In 1901 this Commission was created, as were also the Library Commissions of Delaware and Nebraska, under similar circumstances.

In the following states the influence of women's clubs has been the great factor in the establishment of traveling libraries for localities destitute of books: Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, New York, Wisconsin and Washington. The last named state has given woman her due share of the credit by putting into the state library legislation the requirement that in the formation of the Commission, of the two members to be appointed by the Governor, one must be a woman; that the State Federation of Women's Clubs shall always have on the Commission one person chosen from its membership to represent it, and that the secretary shall be a woman.

Women are quick to see and realize the possibilities of this their share in the modern library movement. To the heart of a woman the awful desolation of a silent cell, the pitiful outlook of a home in which "the only book is a geography of 1856," the hopelessness of the shut-in lives of many of their poorer sisters, make a strong appeal. Their efforts to bring gladness through this avenue, to this part of the world's great misery, have become a recognized part of the library work of today, and no mean factor among those vitalizing forces that move the world forward.

Miss Amy Murray's season as club lecturer has been most successful. Last summer she gathered new material in Scotland for her unique specialty of Highland folk songs, sung in the Gaelic to her own accompaniment upon the ancient Celtic harp. She entered into competition with the native singers at their annual meeting, the "Mod," at Dundee, in September, and won Lord Archibald Campbell's prize—the only American who has ever aspired for honors in the tongue of her Highland ancestors. Miss Murray has frequently been urged to give recitations, and will give "Enoch Arden" to Richard Strauss's music, with Mr. Charles Edmund Wark at the piano next season wherever desired for return engagements. She is to start on the first of May for an extended return tour of the Maritime Provinces of Canada. Miss Murray's address may be found on our page of "Club Lecturers."

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

President, Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, 157 West 103rd Street, New York City.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:
MRS. ROBERT J. BURDETTE,
"Sunnycrest," Pasadena, California.

RECORDING SECRETARY:
MRS. WM. T. COAD,
Rapid City, So. Dakota.

TREASURER:
MRS. EMMA M. VAN VECHTEN,
1110 Second Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:
MRS. EMMA A. FOX,
21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Mich.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
MISS LOUISE POPPENHEIM,
31 Meeting St., Charleston, S. C.

AUDITOR:
MRS. GEORGE H. NOYES,
204 Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis

GENERAL FEDERATION NEWS.



THE board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs has just issued a circular letter addressed "To all club women" in response to the frequent inquiry made as to the value of federation. A careful perusal of this circular should banish forever from the minds of all in-

telligent club women the thought that the value of federation may be estimated in dollars and cents.

There is a tangible relation between the General Federation and the clubs and federations of which it is composed, and much may be accomplished for the betterment of humanity by co-operation for definite purposes.

A copy of this letter has been sent to each club in the Federation and extra copies may be had by applying to Miss Poppenheim, the corresponding secretary.

An Open Letter From the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

To all Club Women:

The General Federation sends greetings to federated and unfederated clubs and earnestly suggests that once again the ever increasing value of federation be considered.

Club life for women having evolved from the self centred club to organized altruism which "loves thy neighbor as thyself"—no more, no less—a mixture of both elements in due proportion produces the ideal club.

There was imminent danger at one time of presenting the saddest of all pictures—club women whose intellects were being cultivated, strengthened, enriched at the expense of the heart. Life cannot long continue when the head and the heart war against each other—"a house divided against itself cannot stand." Hypertrophied head and atrophied heart are as dangerous to club life as to human life. Therefore the heart has taken its share of rightful leadership and taught the head the sense of individual responsibility for the general welfare. The great heart of womanhood is warm and throbbing as never before. Never before in all the story of woman-kind, have women cared so much for other women.

The great beneficent movements for women and children today are being carried forward by woman, en masse, not by the individual woman, for the crying need is so great that only the strength of union, power of co-operation, and oneness of federated purpose can hope to succeed.

It must be self-evident that the strongest club, led by the wisest, most brilliant and coolest-brained woman, is yet unable to cope with and carry forward any of these far reaching plans, as effectually, as when allied with other clubs of like objects. The movements are going forward, and not to be a factor in them, is to linger perhaps unconsciously, with the customs and traditions of the past,—to stand aside and let the world go by.

In becoming a factor for a dominant purpose, individuality is not lost. Each club is to be as clearly distinct as a star in a constellation—a part of it, yet a shining individual star. A club is subject to no master, save the master of its purpose, for which its life began. Clubs should hold to their individual purpose, but if the present purpose has not far outgrown the original one, there is lacking the progressive spirit, the growth of life, whatever other virtues may be possessed. To vitalize old purposes, new methods, plans and views, must be acquired. And how is this to be accomplished if the club is self-centred and introspective? St. Paul's words apply to women's clubs today "they measure themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves are not wise." "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." As nothing so stimulates intellect and practical ideas, as for people of thought and action to meet and interchange views, we deem it invaluable that there should be this mental clearing-house of ideas and methods and accomplished purposes which shall stimulate and electrify into new activities.

With Federation comes not only a breadth of outlook, of purpose of association, of work—which means growth, the thing supremely to be desired in the individual or the club, but there is that which cannot be put into cold words,—a broader charity, a more tolerant spirit, and a sweetness and strength of sympathy and co-operation among strong reserved women, widely separated, yet standing together in a concerted movement for common good. With it comes a reciprocity from lack of which, without realizing it, you may be suffering.

With Federation the development of isolated clubs is no longer limited to the intellectual scope of their community, but brought in contact with clubs of higher purpose and broader work, the humblest club may find definite ideals above and beyond itself. The city club catches from the country club the originality and freshness of thought that comes from intimacy with Nature in her unspoiled "mothering" moods; the country club, in communion with its city sister, feels the thrill of inspiration from the wondrous planning and mighty achievements of the busy world of men, the glamor and glitter of social life. The literary club, with its cold, calm intellectual pulse, gathers warmth and throbbing life from the philanthropic club, bending all its womanly energies to lifting burdens from the souls and bodies of humanity.

Federation finds its true expression in reciprocity, an equation composed of "give" and "take". Having outlined the known quantity of "take" it may not be without profit to consider how "give" can best be accomplished through General Federation, which calls for closer relationship and united effort, hearty co-operation in enlarge opportunities, and unity of action with diversified methods.

The relation of the General Federation to the individual club is that of the rim to the wheel. The individual club is

the hub, the various interests of clubdom the spokes. Perfect though the hub may be, the radiating spokes without a rim form a very imperfect wheel that would at best make but limited progress.

The General Federation is the strong tire, the band of steel uniting all interests, imparting strength at every point of contact, forming a wheel of symmetry and power to carry forward great movements.

The General Federation has the power to make effective national issues of questions which hitherto have been of only local interest. Through its Biennial Convention it fuses in the crucible of mutual acquaintanceship, the ideas of the clubs of marked originality and native independence of thought and readiness of action, and the clubs with more intimate knowledge of the intricate problems of social betterment, but hampered somewhat by tradition and precedent, blending the impetuous and the conservative,—the strenuous and the gentle,—this power and that wisdom into one amalgam of personality stronger, more durable and better than any one of its component elements.

The General Federation has brought together the mothers and homekeepers of the different sections of the United States and educated each and all in breadth of tolerance, humiliated them in the consciousness of lack of superior wisdom, developed the heart in affectionate regard for all, and strengthened faith in the sincerity of universal womanhood. It has furnished a great common platform where women of all shades of belief can mingle and work in the world's progress without a thought of religious difference.

That the General Federation may be a great collector and distributor of the latest and best methods that it may the more effectively arouse interest and stimulate activity along definite lines, and plan for concerted action and legislative aggressiveness when necessary, certain committees are at your service.

The value of these committees depends upon co-operation and you are therefore invited to send to their chairmen accounts of your work along corresponding lines and draw from each such help as you may desire.

1 EDUCATIONAL.

- a. Libraries.
- b. Household Economics.

2 INDUSTRIAL.

- a. Child Labor.

3 ART.

4 RECIPROCITY.

5 CIVICS.

6 FORESTRY.

7 CIVIL SERVICE.

So long as children six years of age are employed in mills and factories in any part of the United States, and there is the crying need for uniform laws regarding child labor; so long as \$600,000,000 is wasted every year in homekeeping of America for want of the knowledge of Household Economics; so long as women who live in mountains or on prairies are hungry for books and art; so long as there is need of the creation of general sentiment for National Irrigation bills that homes for women and children may be created and preserved; so long as the most vital work of social betterment can only bring results by co-operation, can it be that any club can say it has no responsibility in the larger work, that it is enough that it dust its own room? Or if it take a hand in

the world outside its own door, can it wisely say, it proposes to sweep in any direction it desires?

We ask you to appreciate the high place among the world's workers which has been secured to you by effective organization, to note, by a bird's eye view of the great field of human activities and needs that while so much has been accomplished, yet much more needs to be done, differentiate what you can do for your own club, your own state, and your own General Federation, give then to each your active membership, your loyalty, your suggestion directly, your contribution of prompt response, and hearty co-operation—to each, in its due proportion.

So may we all realize the value of being an integral part of a great potential force for service to humanity, through an organization that has more varied interests, greater possible power and more direct effectiveness than any other among women, this club-woman's trinity of Club, State and General Federation—"a threefold cord which is not easily broken."

ISSUED BY ORDER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GENERAL FEDERATION.

April, 1903.

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Mrs. E. L. Buchwalter, Springfield, Ohio.

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Mrs. Emma A. Fox, 21 Bagley avenue, Detroit, Mich.

CLUBS RECENTLY ADMITTED.

The Woman's Club of Ord, Ord, Nebraska: President Laura A. Provins, admitted March 28, 1903.

The Sanitary Club, Tuxedo, St. Louis county, Missouri: President Mrs. B. H. McLain, admitted March 28, 1903.

The Woman's Club, Ponce, Porto Rico: President Mrs. Robert A. Miller, admitted April 6, 1903.

The History Club, Macon, Ga.: President, Mrs. Anna Smith, admitted April 6, 1903.

Sorosis, Falls City, Neb.: President, Lucia A. Wilson, admitted April 6, 1903.

IDAHO.

THE department of domestic science was introduced about a year ago with the course of study of the State University of Idaho and now the regents have just secured the sum of \$2500 from the legislature for its equipment, its maintenance coming from another source. The main credit in this matter is due to Mrs. Mary Ridenbaugh, the only woman on the board of regents and one of the most prominent club women of Boise, for she presented the needs of this department so well to the legislature that not the slightest opposition was shown to the appropriation, and she was largely instrumental in the introduction of this work at the university for which club women all over the state had aroused public sentiment.

The Woman's Columbian club of Boise is rejoicing over the gift of \$15,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a new library building which their efforts have secured. The city library was opened by the club in 1894 and has been managed and largely maintained by it ever since; but it has grown so much that the present quarters in the city hall are inadequate and, nearly a year ago, a committee was named by the club to approach Mr. Carnegie with a request for help. It was necessary to arrange several matters before this was feasible, in the first place a bond issue was secured from the city to purchase a site, and a fine half block centrally located was purchased from the school board at a price far below its actual worth. Then a perpetual maintenance of \$2500 per year was arranged for by the city, and later, a board of library trustees was created to handle the library funds, three of whom the mayor chose from the club women. These matters required much time and an infinite amount of work and then considerable correspondence with Mr. Carnegie followed before the announcement of the gift on March 1st. The women hope to increase this sum by private subscription, or gift from the city to the sum of \$25,000, as it is desirable to erect a building large and complete enough to meet the demands of a constantly growing city for many years to come. The Columbia club have laid aside a fund of \$550 as a nucleus towards the furnishing, which sum they expect to greatly increase before the time comes to use it.

"The Western Slope" is the title of Mrs. Celia Parker Woolley's beautiful little volume, which comes from William S. Lord of Evanston, Ill., (price not given). It is a collection of charming essays, written in the afternoon of life, Mrs. Woolley is a well-known club woman and has been identified with the work of the Chicago Woman's Club for many years. Her book is like herself—sane, cheerful, charitable and hopeful. She has a healthy belief in the future and a liberal view of the present, and her book is characterized by a charming style. It ought to be in great demand among club women, both for its helpful suggestions and its artistic binding and make-up.

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HE conference of the National League of Mothers will be held in Detroit May 5th to 8th.

The Cadillac will be convention headquarters. Rooms on American plan \$3 to \$4 per day; European plan \$2 to \$4 per day. Boarding places may be obtained at lower rates.

The conference meets at the Central M. E. church on Woodward and Adams avenues, three squares from "The Cadillac." Visitors are cordially invited to attend the session of the Congress.

Many of the ladies going from the East are planning to go via Niagara Falls and the Detroit and Buffalo Steamboat Co. The Natural Food Co. extends to all visitors of the conference a most cordial invitation to visit their large plant at Niagara Falls.

The boat leaves Buffalo for Detroit daily at 5.30 P. M., arriving at Detroit at 7.30 A. M.

Tuesday, May 5th, 2 P. M.—Meeting of Board of Managers at Hotel Cadillac.

PROGRAM FOR DETROIT CONFERENCE.

8 P. M.—Addresses of welcome by Gov. Bliss of Michigan; Mayor Mabury, Detroit; Miss Harriet A. Marsh, president Michigan Congress; Hon. F. T. Coughy, Board of Trade; Dr. Lucian C. Newton, President Board of Education and Hon. Wales C. Martindale, Superintendent of Schools.

Response and address by Mrs. Frederic Schoff, President N. C. M.

Greetings, Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, Honorary President.

Wednesday, May 6th, 1903.—Reports of states by the Presidents.

11 A. M.—Report of Committee on Child Labor, Mrs. Florence Kelley, Chairman.

2 P. M.—Chorus of children from public schools of Windsor and Detroit; Mrs. James L. Hughes, Toronto, "Influence of Kindergarten on Child and Home." Discussion by Miss Clara Mingins, Superintendent of Kindergarten Training School, Detroit; Mr. Daniel McFadgen, Windsor, Ontario; Mrs. Eleanor Periam, Saginaw, and others.

Exhibition of Manual Work, Miss Alice Marsh.

4 to 6 P. M.—Reception at Washington Arcade.

8 P. M.—Address by Dr. W. T. Bryan, President Indiana University, "Education by Occupation." Discussion.

Thursday, May 7th, 10 A. M.—Conference. "Moral and Religious Education of Children," Dr. Sherman Davis, Bloomington, Ind.; Dr. Nehemiah Boynton, Detroit, Mich.; Miss Mary Hutcheson, Columbus, Ohio; David A. Maxwell, Ph. D., Windsor, Ontario; Dr. Lee S. McCollester, Detroit, Mich.; Prof. O. G. Frederic, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. Herman P. De Forest, Detroit, Mich.

1 o'clock.—Luncheon at the Cadillac.

4 P. M.—A trip about the city.

8 P. M.—Address by Dr. M. V. O. Shea, School of Educa-

tion, Wisconsin University, "Education for Social Efficiency." Discussion led by Hon. Levi P. Barbour.

Friday, May 8th, 9.30 A. M.—Reports of Committees: Finance, Legislation, Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Children, Program, Domestic Science, Literature, Printing, Education, Press.

11 A. M.—Conference on Child Saving Work, opened by Mrs. Frederic Schoff. "The Duty of the Public to the Child," Hon. Alfred G. Murphy, Detroit, Judge of Recorder's Court.

2.30 P. M.—"Co-operation of Home and School," Mrs. W. S. Hefferan, President Illinois Congress of Mothers.

Discussion by Miss Regina Heller, Detroit Normal Training School; Prof. S. B. Laird, State Normal School, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Miss Alice Marsh, Dr. David Inglis, Detroit; Dr. James Manson, Windsor, Ontario.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Mrs. Frederic Schoff visited Massachusetts in March, in response to earnest invitations from various clubs and organizations which were desirous to know more of the work of childhood which is being done by the National Congress of Mothers.

She spoke at the Cantabrigia Club in Cambridge, and to the Fathers' and Mothers' Club of Boston, who held their meeting on Saturday, inviting teachers of Boston and vicinity to attend. The Newton Federation of Clubs had arranged a meeting in Newton Centre, to which the teachers were invited, and the subject of the address was "Co-operation of Home and School."

The Fathers' and Mothers' Club of Boston invited presidents of clubs in Massachusetts to the Vendome to hear of the Congress. Several hundred ladies from many towns in the state were present, and deep interest was expressed in the work. A reception followed, at which the president of the club, Mrs. Mary Pamela Rice, was assisted in receiving by Mrs. May Alden Ward, president of the State Federation.

Mrs. Schoff spoke also to the Twentieth Century Club on "Parents' Associations in the Schools," showing the great civic value of such auxiliaries to the school system. She outlined the different phases of the work for children covered by the Congress, and expressed the hope that Massachusetts would be one link in the chain of states united to further the interests of the child, and to apply to this important subject the best thought of those who have given it special study.

A resolution was passed by the Club, favoring the formation of a state branch of the Congress, and pledging the support of the club to the committee appointed to effect state organization.

Mrs. G. Stanley Hall, of Worcester, Mass., and Mrs. Mary H. Barker invited the women of Worcester to hear Mrs. Schoff at the beautiful new club house in Worcester, and gave her a reception after the meeting.

The committee appointed for state organization is composed of the following ladies: Mrs. G. Stanley Hall, Worcester Mass.; Mrs. Henry H. Carter, Newtonville, Mass.; Mrs. Ernest W. Roberts, Chelsea; Miss Lucy Wheelock, Boston; Mrs. Samuel Merrill, Cambridge; Mrs. Mary P. Rice, Boston; Mrs. Mary H. Barker, Worcester; Mrs. George Endicott, Chelsea; Mrs. Harriet S. C. Davis Cambridge.

It is expected that an invitation will soon be extended to all who are interested in the work of the Congress to meet and form a state organization. As the national board of managers is composed of state presidents, the extent and growth of the work requires that every state shall be represented to the board. When the first Congress met in Washington the club of which Mrs. Stanley Hall was then president, sent a delegate to Washington to attend the first Congress, and her interest in it has been very deep. Dr. Hall has been a warm friend to the work, and has been a member of the education committee since its formation, and as child study is the necessary foundation for all work for children, the Congress is fortunate in having the inauguration of the state work in such suitable hands.

Miss Wheelock has also been closely associated with the Congress and its warm friend from its formation, having spoken at several of the national conventions, and being a member of one of the committees. Mrs. Henry H. Carter is President of the Newton Federation of Clubs, and deeply interested in the child work, and Mrs. Rice, as president of the Fathers' and Mothers' Clubs, has been doing all in her power to have a state branch of the Congress in Massachusetts. Mrs. Merrill's experience and ability in organization make her a valuable member of the committee. Mrs. Ernest W. Roberts, whose husband is a member of Congress, has known much of the work in Washington, and has also given much thought to furthering it in Massachusetts. Mrs. Mary H. Barker, as superintendent of kindergartens in Worcester, is naturally in sympathy with the lines of work covered by the Congress. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Endicott are also earnest and deeply interested in it, and with such representative women to initiate the state work, its success is assured.

NEW JERSEY.

The work in New Jersey is growing most satisfactorily along the lines of co-operation between home and school. Clubs and Child Study Circles are being formed all over the state in connection with the schools. The state superintendent of public instruction, who is a member of the Advisory Board of the State Congress, has been instrumental in getting the subject of the "Relation Between Home and School" presented at the various teachers institutes by such men as Earl Barnes and Edward Howard Griggs. Meetings for organization have been held in Berlin, Atlantic City, Cape May, Trenton, Camden and Princeton.

The meeting in the Cadwalader School, Trenton, was most enthusiastic. That at Princeton comprised in its numbers the wives of the professors of the college, as well as the mothers of the children of the public kindergarten.

The Jersey City Mothers' Club at one of its meetings succeeded in securing the attendance of the teachers, supervising principals and superintendents of the city's schools. Several county superintendents have taken a personal interest in this work and called meetings in their various schools to discuss plans of work. Altogether the outlook is most hopeful.

Through the courtesy of Judge James S. Erwin (one of the New Jersey Congress Advisory Board) a bill for a juvenile court law was framed, but the time did not seem ripe yet for its presentation.

All over the state there is a growing network of mother-hands clasping one another in the earnest endeavor to better the conditions for the children of the state.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The General Assembly of North Carolina does enact:

Section 1. That no child under twelve years of age shall be employed in any factory or manufacturing establishment in the state.

Section 2. That not exceeding sixty-six hours shall constitute a week's work in all factories and manufacturing establishments of this state, and no person shall be required or allowed to work in such factories or establishments for a longer period than sixty-six hours in one week, provided that the section shall not apply to engineers, firemen, machinists, superintendents, overseers, section or yard hands, office men, watchmen or persons engaged in repairing breakdowns.

Section 3. All person or persons standing in loco parentis, hiring their children, shall furnish to the employer a statement in writing, of the age of such children. Any such person or persons acting as parent who shall misstate the age of such child or children shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any mill man, or operator, or person employing labor for any manufacturing establishment who shall knowingly violate any section of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not exceeding \$100.

Section 4. This act shall be in force and effect after January 1st, 1904.

The above is a copy of a bill passed by our last Legislative Assembly. It by no means is as complete as it was intended to be by the man who first introduced the Child Labor Bill, but it means recognition of the rights of the child, and the demands of those working for the ultimate good of the citizens of the state. A more detailed account of this work will be given to the Congress at its meeting in May.

MINA WEIL,

Member of Child Labor Committee National Congress of Mothers.

IDAHO.

Mrs. D. W. Standrood, chairman of the Domestic Science Committee, writes that after two years' work the women of Idaho have succeeded in influencing the Legislature to make an appropriation for completing the building necessary for a thoroughly equipped course in domestic science for the Academy of Idaho, which is part of the University of the State.

ILLINOIS.

President, Mrs. William S. Hefferan; Secretary, Mrs. F. J. Scott, 6548 Normal avenue, Chicago.

The fourth annual meeting of the Illinois Congress of Mothers will be held in De Kalb, May 12th, 1903. The program this year will consider "The Activities of Children;" a, in the home; b, in the school, and c, in recreation. Speakers will be those who have given the subject special study.

The following subjects have been presented under the auspices of the Congress at conference meetings, or state teachers' associations throughout the state: "Art in the Schools," "Manual Training," "Co-operation of Home and School," "Domestic Science," "The Boy Problem."

To these will be added this year: "Periods of Growth," "Educational Value of Play," "Self Government or Discipline," "Literature for Children," "Significance of the Kindergarten Movement," "Present and Future Education for Girls." Speakers, specialists in their subjects, will be furnished in Chicago and vicinity.

UTAH.

The Home Protective Association, recently organized in Salt Lake, has applied for membership in the National Congress of Mothers. In a state where polygamy is still corrupting and deadening the moral standards of the people such an organization has a strong reason for existence. There are grave menaces to the purity and sanctity of the American home, and against all these baneful influences the womanhood of the nation should unite. When earnest women, who have lived for years in the midst of this insidious and veiled evil, and are conversant of its continuance in teaching and in practice, unite for the protection of the home, women North, South, East and West should aid them in their efforts. The question is one which should come home to every woman, for the menace to the home exists today in every state. Mormon missionaries are reaching hundreds of young men and women with their corrupting influences. In the cities, in the factory towns, in the mountain villages of the South, among the peasants in foreign lands, every material inducement is being offered to win young men and women. Not only in Utah, but in every state, danger lurks at our very doors, for these emissaries of a doctrine so subtle and so degrading are working everywhere.

The women of the land must not sleep while the very foundations of the home are being undermined. It is not Utah, but every state in the Union, which is interested in the uprooting of an evil which is deadly.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers at the conference held in the Chapel of the University of Pennsylvania appointed a committee to select and correspond with groups of men and women in each county, who shall keep themselves in touch with the juvenile court work and see that it is conducted according to the spirit as well as the letter of the law, and to provide probation officers and be responsible for their salaries. The committee is now at work, and will send out leaflets, telling what the juvenile court has accomplished in Philadelphia and how this may be done in country neighborhoods, the cost, etc., as worked out in Delaware county, where the plan has been tried most successfully. In several other counties this work is already going forward satisfactorily, and we trust in the near future the whole of this great state may put itself upon record as carefully and wisely caring for its neglected, dependent and delinquent little ones. The duty of the groups shall also be to awaken public interest in the children and to spread information along the lines upon which we are working.

Our district attorney said recently that a few years of wise administration of the juvenile court law, with the invaluable work of the probation officers, would make a noticeable difference in the number of childish offenders, and these growing up to better citizenship would in time make great changes in general conditions.

Surely there is nothing so hopeful as this work for children, for it is remedial.

Lightener Witner, Ph. D., professor of psychology in the University of Pennsylvania, invited the audience to his labora-

tory, where he gave them an instructing and practical address upon the mental and spiritual development of the child. He said in part that, "practice of psychology may become as well defined a pursuit of a trained professional class as the practice of medicine or law."

"The regular practitioners of psychology are the teachers. Unfortunately many of them have as yet too little appreciation of the value of training and of persistent study of the cases they are treating in the school room."

He spoke warmly in favor of the plan proposed by Mrs. Schoff, president of the National Congress of Mothers, to provide a course of university training with diploma, for probation officers and other workers among children, which training should embrace a knowledge of the psychology of childhood, hygiene, the juvenile court law and how best to present cases, investigation of cases, etc., etc.

This paper was followed by discussion and questions and was felt to have been very helpful.

In the evening Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, superintendent of public institution, addressed the Congress upon "The Relations of the Mothers of Pennsylvania to the Schools of the State."

He laid upon their already heavily loaded shoulders new duties which he thought their influence should make not only possible, but easy. He begged that they interest themselves in the passage of the bill now before the Legislature which provides better salaries for teachers.

This bill, we are glad to report, has now become a law.

He also spoke of the great service mothers might render if they would look into the ventilation, cleanliness and sanitation of the school houses in their neighborhood, and of the importance of acquainting themselves with the characters, aims and aspirations of the teachers to whom they trust their dearest jewels.

The paper was ably discussed by a number of prominent persons present, and the thought was expressed that school suffrage would be the most efficient way of enabling the women of Pennsylvania to act upon Dr. Schaeffer's valuable suggestion.

The session closed with the feeling that the discussion of these present day interests had been beneficial.

MRS. HOWARD W. LIPPINCOTT, President.

Iowa club women, as well as newspaper women throughout the state are deeply interested in the appearance of a little volume of sketches of child life, entitled, "Bread and 'Lasses," from the clever pen of Miss Emile Blackmore Stapp of Des Moines. "Bread and 'Lasses" may be found at all book shops and is a book that will appeal not alone to young people, but to older ones as well—the grandmothers. It is published by the George A. Miller Co., Des Moines, Iowa. Price \$1.00.

No one who expects or even wishes to own a home in the country can fail to be interested in "Home Building and Furnishing," by William M. Price and W. M. Johnson. From piazzas to bedrooms the illustrations offer a scope and variety as to style and decoration that is fascinating to a flat-dweller and attractive as well to those possessing a town house. Practical, with figures given to guide the inexperienced, it would seem seem that one might select from the pages of this book a dwelling that would become a delightful home. (Doubleday, Page & Co. Price \$1.00).

MASSACHUSETTS STATE FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

Honorary President, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe

President, Mrs. May Alden Ward, 281 Dartmouth St., Boston

1st Vice-President, Miss HELEN A. WHITTIER, 50 Chelmsford St., Lowell.
 2d Vice-President, Mrs. ANNA D. WEST, 18 Summit Ave., Somerville.
 3d Vice-President, Mrs. SARA T. LEIGHTON, Monmouth Sq., East Boston.
 4th Vice-President, Miss GEORGIA BACON, 39 Dean St., Worcester.

Clerk, Miss KATHERINE H. STONE, 20 Brooks St., West Medford.
 Asst. Clerk, Mrs. H. R. ALDRICH, 262 School St., Somerville.
 Cor. Secretary, Miss ETTA H. GLIDDEN, 22 Cordis St., Charlestown.
 Treasurer, Mrs. H. C. CARTER, Bellingham Ave., Chelsea.

THE APRIL MEETING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE FEDERATION.



THE State Federation met in Dorchester on Wednesday, April 8, the Dorchester Woman's Club being the hostess of the occasion. In spite of the inclement weather a large number of delegates were in attendance, representing clubs from all over the state, and the spacious hall of the High School building was well filled at both sessions.

Heretofore seats have been reserved for delegates at annual meetings only, but the increasing attendance at the quarterly meetings presents a problem which the Executive Board has been studying this winter, and at this meeting the experiment was tried of reserving until after the first address a sufficient number of seats to accommodate two delegates from each club, thus securing to delegates from a distance holding the required credentials an equal opportunity with others. The plan worked well and will doubtless lead to a favorable consideration at the annual meeting of an amendment to the constitution which has been formulated by the Federation clerk and approved by the Executive Board.

The Dorchester Club received many congratulations on their ability to so handsomely and comfortably house and entertain the Federation, the beautiful High School building, with its artistic decorations, largely provided by the club, and the charmingly home-like club house across the way, equally claiming the enthusiastic admiration of the visitors. Luncheon was served most acceptably at long tables, filling the audience hall of the club house. The choral class of the Woman's Club, under the leadership of Mrs. Martha Dana Shepard, gave several selections at the opening of both sessions, which, with the half hour recital of the Copley Trio of Boston, constituted a special feature of interest.

Mrs. May Alden Ward president of the Federation, in her usual happy manner, responded to the cordial welcome extended by Mrs. Edith W. Bolster, president of the Dorchester Club, and then presented the honorary president, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who spoke a few words of greeting, expressing her pleasure as godmother of the Federation in being present as its guest. Mrs. Booker T. Washington, who was unexpectedly in attendance at the meeting, received a cordial welcome, to which she responded briefly, and early in the afternoon, by request of the president, she spoke somewhat in detail of the work of the Tuskegee Woman's Club, describing the methods used in one department to elevate the standards of living on plantations adjacent to Tuskegee.

The regular program of the morning was opened by Dr. C. Hanford Henderson, of Philadelphia, whose subject was "The Birthright of Childhood." He began by saying that the Federation had been considering recently some of the sins of commission in the training of children, and he should treat especially some of the sins of omission, and he continued in part as follows:

"What makes adult life beautiful is denied to half a million children. In the adult life we can work out our own salvation, but our freedom is nominal, for we have to meet the tyranny of a nature which appears to tolerate man, rather than to cherish him. We find earth in the possession of people to whom we come uninvited, and we are hampered by the tyranny of our own personal equipment. It takes courage to face all these things.

"But suppose nature were pliant public opinion what we wanted it to be and our equipments what were necessary. We could then bring no enterprise to a game that was not worth winning. Life is not a bed of roses. There are certain conditions in the game which may be met and victory won. These conditions constitute the charm of the game and make us abler men and women.

"More than half a million children are forced to toil, and the effects are more appalling on society at large than even upon the children themselves. The children did not ask to come here to be robbed of all their rights and of all that makes life beautiful. There is no individual redress for these children. Often the parents are crippled. What can you say to fathers and mothers who give birth to children they know they cannot rear? What can you say to shareholders whose greed makes child labor possible? They are kind men, but they must have their dividends. We, too, like cheap clothing and the nice hard coal fires, but in my coal bin I see the starved, pinched faces of the children who work in the coal mines, whose puny fingers picked out the slate from my coal.

"Child labor and mother labor are synonymous. It is useless to appeal to the employer of child labor. Only the state can be appealed to, and such legislation should be as radical as was the emancipation proclamation, for it has to deal with a slavery quite as terrible.

"I believe that the Federation of Women's clubs can do something to bring about a national legislation. State legislation, to prevent the evils of child labor, will be difficult to obtain so long as the present fierce competition in manufacturing prevails, but Congress should be appealed to for a national law."

The speaker then alluded to the new national department of commerce and industry, and said it remains to be seen what it shall do in social affairs. This evil of child labor comes well within this department to legislate upon, and the problem of child labor exceeds the problem of the trusts. The rights asked for children are only those guaranteed by the constitution.

There are half a million children at work, some less than 10 years old, and some receive less than nine cents a day. Is not the problem large enough for the national government to be interested in?

The closing speaker of the morning was Professor Sanford Bell, on "Heredity and Environment in the Education of the Individual."

The problem of the individual's growth, of developing the masterful man, the masterful woman from the helpless infant,

he said, is the problem of education, and one which it is noble to accept and to welcome. It is the problem of first importance to each individual. The two great forces in the education of every individual are heredity and environment. There are just two things in the world that are important to each one of you. You are one, and everything else that is not you is the other. Heredity gives you all that you start with. Henceforth the problem is to make the most out of heredity's endowment under the circumstances of the environment that came along with it. And this is the problem of education.

Out of the child's instincts grow his interests as offshoots. And these interests are, in many instances, as old as the race is in their special kind of experience. Environment has been one of the great formative forces in producing and shaping what heredity transmits; it serves as the stimulus to set off her reflexes and instincts; furnishes the exercise ground for the child's activities, gives him the material to work with, furnishes him all of his opportunities and one-half of his rewards, conditions his development, and calls him to account, cutting him off if he is not fit to survive. This environment extends from the parental nest in which he is mothered, through the home, the community, the state, the world, the universe.

The last part of Professor Bell's lecture was devoted to working out the details of the part which heredity and environment play in the education of the individual. It was full of concrete illustrations and suggestions.

At the opening of the afternoon session Mrs. Mary Morton Kehew, president of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union of Boston, was presented, and she briefly and forcibly outlined the work of her great organization, which has just become a member of the Massachusetts Federation.

The program was continued by Professor Charles Zueblin, of the University of Chicago, who gave a valuable address on "Democratic Art."

"The tendency of the world," he said, "is toward aristocracy, toward a separation of employer and employed. There are people who criticise the new arts and crafts movement which encourages handicraft, saying that it is a return to mediaeval conditions, but in the present economic tendencies we find, in addition to the displacing of men by machinery, there comes the superior organization of industry to reduce further the number of people employed in routine industries. The surplus labor must be employed somehow, but the present tendencies, of war on the one hand, and of fashion on the other, are destructive, and therefore we must welcome the advent of a movement which promises to make use of labor in individual ways, and to do things which are worth while. This is not only an economic, but an educational and moral gain to art and to life. Democratic art, as Morris defined it, is an art made by the people and for the people, a joy to the maker and the user. We must add to our 19th century skill in mechanical arts and accumulated wealth the mediaeval standard in workmanship, in which the skilled workman produces a personal product for a known consumer. We shall attain this best by the education of the producer and the consumer, thereby connecting the lives of both."

ANNUAL MEETING.

By invitation of the Worcester Woman's Club the State Federation will hold its eleventh annual meeting at the Worcester Woman's Club House, corner of Salisbury and Tuckerman streets, Worcester, on May 15 and 16, 1903. Opening session at 3 P. M. on Friday; morning session at 10.30 A.

M. on Saturday. The afternoon session on Friday, and the whole day, Saturday, will be devoted to the business of the Federation, including the reports of the clerk, treasurer, corresponding secretary, secretary for the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and chairmen of standing committees. The report of the nominating committee will be followed by the annual election of officers.

On Friday evening, May 15, the tenth anniversary of the State Federation will be celebrated. It is expected that Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, president, and Mrs. Robert J. Burdette, vice-president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, will be present.

All members of clubs belonging to the State Federation may attend these meetings, but only delegates presenting credentials may vote. The apportionment of delegates is on the basis of the state treasurer's report of fees paid for the current year, in accordance with Article X. of the by-laws.

The Executive Board recommends the following amendments to the by-laws, which will be voted upon at the annual meeting:

Amend Section 1, Article IX., by striking out the word "four" and inserting the word "five," so that the section shall read: "Each club in the State Federation shall pay to the state treasurer annual dues at the rate of five cents for every active member. The minimum dues for any club shall be two dollars," etc.

Amend Article X. by inserting as Section 2 the following: "At quarterly meetings of the Federation each club shall be entitled to be represented by three delegates. Clubs having one hundred and twenty-five members, or between one hundred and one hundred and twenty-five members, shall be entitled to one additional delegate. For every twenty-five additional members a club shall be entitled to one additional delegate. When conditions make a larger representation possible, exceptions on this rule may be made by the Executive Board."

Amend present Section 2 by numbering it Section 3.

Luncheon tickets for May 16, at fifty cents each, must be obtained from Miss Alice M. Cheney, 15 Bowdoin street, Worcester, by remitting order with money enclosed and an addressed and stamped envelope for the return of the ticket. All orders must be sent in before May 12. No tickets sold on the day of the meeting.

Delegates desiring hotel accommodations can secure them at the rate of \$2.50 to \$3.50 per day upon application to Mrs. E. E. Thompson, 5 Jacques avenue, Worcester.

Trains leave South Station for Worcester at 8.30 and 9 A. M., 12 o'clock noon, and 1.15 P. M. Fare, \$1 each way. Ten-trip ticket, \$9. Fare on mileage ticket, 88 cents each way.

KATHARINE H. STONE, Clerk.

THE COUNCIL OF BOSTON CLUBS.

A conference of Boston Club presidents and delegates, called by the educational committee of the New England Woman's Club, was held in the club rooms on Saturday, April 11. Mrs. May Alden Ward was chosen chairman, for the afternoon, and Mrs. W. H. Mackintosh, secretary. The object of the conference was to discuss informally how the Boston clubs could do their share in the friendly study of the needs of the public schools, suggested to all Massachusetts clubs by the joint committee from the collegiate alumnae and the State Federation.

Mrs. Edward H. Atherton was asked to outline the plans and aims of the committee, which has received much aid and inspiration from the advisory committee of experts whose suggestive report was sent to the clubs last year, signed by President Eliot, Alice Freeman Palmer, Sarah Arnold, Frank A. Hill, Secretary State Board of Education, and others.

The special object to which the committee invites attention is the improvement of some conditions in the elementary schools, which are suffering seriously from the too-frequent appointment of teachers for personal rather than professional reasons.

The special problems to be solved are, first, the securing of high grade teachers for the schools; second, the problem of securing superior men and women to serve on school boards; third, reducing the number of pupils per teacher; as thirty-five ought to be the maximum instead of the minimum.

The work of the school board should be purely legislative; there should be more special schools for the backward and the feeble-minded; the movement to make a larger use of the school buildings should be encouraged. Some of these changes would not necessarily mean larger appropriations but a different distribution. The present cost of each pupil per week is only sixty-six cents.

Mrs. Atherton hoped that the clubs would study all these questions in a sympathetic rather than a critical way, and that the schools would be visited personally by those who wish to interest others in the problems.

Some practical suggestions were offered for immediate action; that each club send delegates to a meeting in the interests of the schools, called for April 29, by prominent citizens of Boston, to which delegates from the leading civic organizations of the city are invited; that the clubs assist in the nomination and election of the best possible candidates for the school board, and also help the plan for its reorganization; that a permanent organization be formed here and now to further these aims.

This last was done with Mrs. Ward as permanent chairman of the council of Boston clubs, with Miss Mary H. Ladd as clerk pro tem. Mrs. Caroline Stone Atherton, Miss Alice Burditt, Mrs. Bean, Mrs. Bullock and Mrs. Tupper were appointed a committee to prepare plans for further action and to report at the next meeting.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN KANSAS.

A number of the officers of the Kansas State Social Science Federation happened to be in Pittsburg, Kan., where a manual training school had been in operation for three years. They found the work most interesting and they asked the president of the school board, E. F. Porter, to send a display of the work done in the school, to the next annual Federation meeting. At that meeting the Educational Committee asked Professor Russ, the superintendent of the Pittsburg schools, for a talk on manual training. Another committee asked for papers from two teachers of domestic science. The State Charities Conference Committee had much to say concerning domestic science in the Girls' Industrial School at Beloit (a home for incorrigible girls).

One of the papers given in the department of philanthropy was devoted to the subject of kindergarten and manual training schools, as the wisest forms that philanthropy could take. "It is better to form the child aright than to try to reform him after he has gone wrong," was the main idea in this

paper. "If society will deal with its children as it is possible to deal with them, the present swelling river of crime would be reduced to a rivulet in a single generation." So says General Brinkerhoff, an authority in criminology.

So the idea of manual training seemed to spring up independently in a half a score of places at once. For there had been no concerted action to make this idea a prominent one.

The manual training display from the Pittsburg schools helped to intensify the interest in this work.

The Federation unanimously passed the motion that a Legislative committee be appointed, whose duty it should be to look into the laws of other states regarding manual training, and to draft such a law as should seem best adapted to the needs of the state and try to secure its passage.

Mrs. Lucy B. Johnston, the State President, appointed a committee of twelve, Mrs. Kate Aplington of Council Grove being chairman.

Some Good People

still follow antiquated methods of raising cake, biscuit, bread and pastry with home-made mixtures of what they suppose to be cream of tartar and soda.

They do not know that these articles as now sold in the groceries are almost anything else but cream of tartar and soda.

The best housekeepers use the Royal Baking Powder instead. Its scientific composition insures uniform results. Only by its use can the finest flavored, most wholesome cake, biscuit and pastry be produced. To any housekeeper who has not used the Royal Baking Powder we would like to send our Cook Book, free. Mark your request "For instruction."

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The states in which manual training schools have been in successful operation were listed.

The state superintendents, the presidents of State Normals, and Universities, the city superintendents of the three largest cities in each of these states were written to also the principals and presidents of all the greater manual training schools. Over one hundred and fifty letters were so written.

The committee asked for information about the school laws, for suggestions as to laws and methods, of faults to be avoided.

More than a hundred replies were received, many of them long letters rich in information.

Copies of state and city school laws and reports, manual training pamphlets and magazines were sent in abundance.

This matter was thoroughly read, and the strong points marked. Part of it was distributed among the members of the committee so that they might be well informed, able to mould public sentiment in their different localities. They attended to the publishing of articles bearing on the subject in their home papers. Quotations from the pamphlets sent were freely used in this way.

Then letters were sent to each of the one hundred and sixty-six members of the legislature. Those that were interested were asked to apply to the chairman for material for further study of the subject. More than ten per cent replied, and the letters that had been received from the educators of other states and clippings from the books and pamphlets were divided up among them.

F. Dumont Smith, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, met with the Women's Legislative Committee and after a study of the laws of other states and the suggestions received from state superintendents, etc., he drafted a bill that was most satisfactory.

Senator Porter, who had inaugurated the work in the Pittsburg schools gladly promised to champion the bill in the Senate. W. S. Jenks, a teacher of experience, introduced it in the House.

Many of the committee were wives of legislators, and they could do much to cultivate sentiment in favor of the measure.

Through the influence of the state president, the co-operation of the three daily papers was secured, and during the legislative session a dozen articles, prepared under the direction of the committee appeared on the editorial pages.

The Pittsburg school had a fine display in one of the rooms of the State House.

Just how much or little was accomplished by these measures we do not know. The committee had determined to use every possible means, to leave no stone unturned, to awaken interest in the manual training idea.

On March 2nd the bill passed. The first three sections of this bill provide that city and district school boards may levy a special tax to establish and maintain manual training departments and schools. The course of study must be approved by the State Board of Education.

The next three sections are intended to encourage these schools to maintain a high standard of excellence, they provide that those schools that desire state aid must make a yearly report of all work done. If this is satisfactory to the State Board of Education and if they employ a specially qualified teacher who holds a special industrial-training certificate from the State Board of Education, they may receive a yearly bonus of \$250 from the state; a very modest amount, yet sufficient so that it will be an inducement to the school to keep its work up to the standard.

In regard to this state aid appropriation (which is limited to \$10,000 yearly) one of the leading educators of the state said: "I would rather give this appropriation to improve the

(See next page.)

MONEY TO COOKS.

\$7,500.00 Donated, To Be Divided Among Family Cooks.

The sum of \$7,500.00 will be distributed between now and midsummer among family cooks, in 735 prizes ranging from \$200.00 to \$5.00.

This is done to stimulate better cooking in the family kitchen. The contest is open to paid cooks (drop the name "hired girl," call them cooks if they deserve it) or to the mistress of the household if she does the cooking. The rules for contest are plain and simple. Each of the 735 winners of money prizes will also receive an engraved certificate of merit or diploma as a cook. The diplomas bear the big gilt seal and signature of the most famous food company in the world, The Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., of Battle Creek, Mich., the well-known makers of Postum Coffee and Grape-Nuts. Write them and address Cookery Department, No. 343, for full particulars.

This remarkable contest among cooks to win the money prizes and diplomas will give thousands of families better and more delicious meals, as well as cleaner kitchens and a general improvement in the culinary department, for the cooks must show marked skill and betterment in service to win. Great sums of money devoted to such enterprises always result in putting humanity further along on the road to civilization, health, comfort and happiness.

condition of our common schools—so that all of the children of the state may derive benefit from it, than to give it to the state colleges whose benefits are for the few. Not that I would deny state appropriation to the colleges and universities—but that having given it to the college it is logical and just, and wise, to give state aid to the common schools also.”

There is still much to do to make this law a success. It is a permissive law, not mandatory law.

Unless the school districts are minded to bestir themselves, to employ the means given to establish industrial training schools, the law will be a dead law on the statute books.

The general sentiment in favor of these schools must be established in the different sections of the state.

When so established the work must be carefully observed during the first experimental years so that faults may be soon corrected.

The actual work done, the actual methods and the actual results of manual training schools are little understood. There is much educative work to be done by the Federation along this line. The law is passed but it rests largely with the Federation to make it a success.

KATE A. APLINGTON,

KANSAS.

MRS. A. H. Horton, the president of the Good Government Club, is now the presiding officer of the Topeka City Federation. The other officers are Mrs. Clement Smith of the West Side Reading Club, first vice-president; Mrs. C. D. Startzman, of the Portia Club, second vice-president; Mrs. Lee Monroe, Western Sorosis Club, recording secretary; Mrs. Frank Bowen, W. T. K. Club, treasurer; Mrs. C. A. Wilbur, Olio Club, auditor.

The retiring president's, Mrs. Garvey address, was a review of the great and practical work done by the Federation the past year, set forth in a concise manner. She outlined the year's work under these heads, gospel work, manual training plans, education, school bonds, arts and crafts, club house, entertainment course, charitable work and patriotism. After a general summary, in closing she said: "In leaving this office your first president gave to the Federation its colors, the second its motto, and I wish to present to you the flag—emblem of all we hold most dear. Every organization should display the flag of its country."

The Federation is now the possessor of a large American flag and their appreciation of such a gift is the highest. By the careful guidance, keen judgment and uncommon business ability of the president, every attempt and undertaking of this body of women, 900 strong, has resulted in the betterment of this community, whether philanthropic, educational or a movement for civic improvement. Mrs. Garvey is recognized as a woman of rare administrative ability and intelligence and one of the most progressive and whole souled club women in the state.

UTAH.

THE club women of Utah are already actively engaged upon plans for next year's work, the outlook at present being most promising in every respect. Individual clubs are planning to have at least one day devoted to Federation work; other special days will also receive consideration.

At a recent meeting of the board of directors it was decided to co-operate with other Western states in an effort to have Mrs. Denison present at the annual meeting in October. Mrs. Denison's presence will not only be a source of much

pleasure, but will greatly aid and encourage the work in the West.

An innovation in club work, having as its object the encouragement of original efforts, has been successfully carried out in the Ladies' Literary Club of Salt Lake City. Early in the year cash prizes were offered for the two best short stories. Several stories of exceptional merit were written, the honors being awarded to Mrs. Kelsey and Mrs. Ritchie, two of the brightest women in the state.

The Daughters of the Revolution are also active in their work of instilling patriotism in the hearts of the young. The annual prize offered to the Salt Lake High School was this year contested for by an unusually large number of students. The chairman of the Reciprocity Bureau has been hard at work getting papers listed and ready for the national committee. Utah may well be proud of this bureau as the list compares very favorably with lists from other states where the work has been long established. The Traveling Library Committee has also been up and doing. Two new cases of books have been added since the annual meeting. It is hoped that very soon a collection of pictures will also be sent out to add to the good already accomplished by the traveling libraries.

The many friends of the free kindergarten movement will be pleased to know that at last free kindergartens are an assured fact in Utah. A bill passed by the last Legislature provides that kindergartens must be established in the public schools within four years in every district having a population of 2000 or upwards.

Other bills having to do with the law in regard to children were passed through the influence of the club women, thus showing what can be done by united effort.

CARRIE E. BICKSEL.

BUILT OVER.

Food that Rebuilt a Man's Body and Built It Right

By food alone, with a knowledge of what food to use, disease can be warded off and health maintained, also many even chronic diseases can be cured. It is manifestly best, and safest to depend upon food to cure rather than too much drugging.

A case in point will illustrate. A well-known man of Reading, Pa., treasurer of a certain club there, says: "I have never written a testimonial letter but I have been using Grape-Nuts about a year and have recovered my health, and feel that I would like to write you about it for the case is extraordinary.

"For five years I was a sufferer from a dreadful condition of the bowels; the trouble was most obscure." Here follows a detailed description and the condition certainly was distressing enough (details can be given by mail).

"Nothing in the way of treatment of drugs benefited me in the least and an operation was seriously considered. In May, 1901, I commenced using Grape-Nuts as a food and with no idea that it would in any way help my condition. In two or three weeks time I noticed an improvement and there was a steady gain from that time on until now I am practically well. I don't know how to explain the healing value of the food but for some reason, although it has taken nearly a year, I have recovered my health and the change is entirely attributable to Grape-Nuts food, for I long ago quit medicine. I eat only Grape-Nuts for breakfast and luncheon, but at my night dinner I have an assorted meal." Name furnished by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

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MINNESOTA.

ON FEBRUARY 12th the mid-winter luncheon of the Minnesota State Federation was held in St. Paul. Although this function has never been made a compulsory affair, it has always given so much pleasure to those who have attended that year after year each winter sees this charming gathering.

At 10 o'clock on the morning of this meeting was held a session of the executive board; at 11 o'clock, an informal reception, and at noon the luncheon was served.

Between five and six hundred women were present, and the entertaining women of the St. Paul clubs received high and well deserved praise for their arrangements. Heretofore the guests at these mid-winter luncheons have been seated at very long tables, and have chatted pleasantly with those on either hand, or have sat neglected and silent, as chance and courtesy or lack of cordiality in neighbors might decree. This time a pleasant innovation was made in this custom of seating the guests; and the large hall was filled with small tables at which groups of women were seated, with a St. Paul club woman in the capacity of hostess at each table. Like any other hostess, of course this woman saw to it that her guests were put at ease and entertained, and the additional

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Write for sample free copy and special offer to readers of The Club Woman Monthly, one dollar a year.

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trouble which may have been taken to perfect this arrangement was certainly amply rewarded. On the platform was a long table at which were seated the officers of the Federation, the speakers of the day, and some invited guests, among the latter being Mrs. Van Sant, wife of the governor of the state.

The menu was delicious, and after the serving of the material part, came the mental feast, in the shape of a program of toasts, this being preluded by the president in a brief but characteristically felicitous speech. Miss Margaret J. Evans, of Carlton College, responded to the sentiment of "Club Hospitality," and no one could be better fitted to speak on such a subject, since Miss Evans is so widely known and loved, and has been a recipient of club hospitality from Maine to California.

Mrs. Charles E. Conant then spoke on "Book-worms," following out the lines of the sentiment from Bacon: "Some books are to be tasted, some swallowed, and some chewed and digested."

The interest of those present centered very largely in the next speaker on the program, because it was a very new thing that a man be put formally and officially on these programs. Judge Frank Wilson, of Stillwater, was the next speaker, and spoke very interestingly on "Club Husbands," at first claiming kinship as with half sisters, since he was the half of a good club woman; and then speaking most earnestly as to the work already accomplished and yet to be done by club women. Mrs. J. L. Washburn, of Duluth, then spoke on "Club Progress," and had there been one among her hearers heretofore lukewarm in her club work, she must have been stirred with a more eager longing to take her part in this great onward and upward movement. Last of all, Prof. Maria Sanford, of the State University of Minnesota, spoke of the future. Miss Sanford is always a very earnest speaker, but turning this talk as she did in the direction of the future of young womanhood, she claimed the most eager attention of every one present.

The program was interspersed with musical selections, most exquisitely rendered by some of the best talent among the artists of St. Paul, and mention must also be made here of the musical program rendered during the progress of the luncheon by Miss Hope's orchestra, also a St. Paul organization.

Now that it is over, as one looks back, one feels tempted to paraphrase and plagiarize from Lehigh Hunt, and say—perhaps there might have been a pleasanter function, but doubtless there never was.

EDITH M. CONANT.

ILLINOIS.

DURING the past month it has been the privilege of Chicago club women to have in their midst Mrs. Robert Burdette, vice-president of the General Federation. She was present at a business meeting of the Chicago Woman's club and was able to show to a degree wherein large clubs may and do receive benefit from membership in the General

AUTHORS' AGENCY

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References:—Noah Brooks, Mrs. Deland, Mrs. Burton Harrison, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, W. D. Howells, Mrs. Moulton Mary E. Wilkins, Helen M. Winslow and others. Send stamp for BOOKLET to

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Federation. Large influential clubs have much to give out to others and in the giving must they look for a part of the good they desire from membership, and not in only that which they may receive. While the daily papers reported that there were many of the club who were in favor of withdrawing from the General Federation, the article was highly colored to make a sensational story. The truth is that while a very few radicals did voice such sentiment the club took no such action, the question of withdrawing not being up for consideration at all. The remarks were brought about through discussion and no motion to that effect was before the club. The Chicago Woman's club is composed almost entirely of broad, liberal minded women, and it is safe to assume that they would never vote to sever their connection with the Federation, knowing full well what the strength of the Federation means to the women and children of the country. Large clubs, or for that matter no club, should be judged by the extreme views held by a few.

Mrs. Burdette has given her talk on "Unity in Diversity" before the West End, Englewood, and Chicago South Side clubs. The subject was so well handled by her that she filled her hearers with enthusiasm, and a greater desire to add to the strength of the General Federation by doing more and better work for their own club and the state, knowing that therein lies the strength of the General Federation. A number of men were present by invitations and they expressed much satisfaction upon hearing Mrs. Burdette plead for the club woman, to always cultivate the womanly grace and gentleness for which by nature she is endowed, and also her urging women to foster comradeship with their sons and husbands more and more.

Good club women have always done this, but it is well to have one high in office voice it, for alas! there are still many who do not yet understand the true club women; if they did they would know that the good home-maker is not the exception among them.

The child labor law is the absorbing question of the day in this state. The clubs have all worked faithfully to educate the public up to a clearer understanding of existing conditions and the need of the new law, for the shame of child slavery is made more apparent each day to the unselfish thinking public. The plea of one man that a great hardship would come to him if children were not allowed to work at night because he would have to pay men 75 cents per hour, while boys were only paid 65 cents, proves the inhuman selfishness which is causing some men to work for the defeat of the bill. Members of the industrial committee of the State Federation are giving all their time to the bill. They have called a mass meeting for Sunday afternoon to be held in Fullerton Hall of the Art Institute. It is hoped by this means to arouse such a strong protest against child labor that the Representatives at Springfield will understand in no uncertain way what is demanded of them by the people. It is a hopeful sign that right will prevail when we know that only about 2 per cent of the manufacturers of the state are fighting the bill.

February is always the time for the exhibit of the Chicago artists at the Art Institute. This exhibit is held under the auspices of the exhibition committee, which is an auxiliary of the Municipal Art League of Chicago.

The exhibition committee is composed of delegates from women's clubs, and many of them hold receptions for their members and guests. These view-days have been given by the clubs for the past six years, and their value to the citizens and artists is evident from the increase of attendance

and sales from year to year. The new feature of the exhibition this year was the purchase by the committee of one of the best paintings. This picture is to form the nucleus of a collection that is to be purchased from year to year, to be known as the Municipal Art League collection. It is to hang in the Art Institute, and in time will become a valuable collection of the best works of local artists. The fund for the purchase of the works of art for this collection is raised by voluntary contribution from the clubs, and from individuals. However, the most important point and the one that we should emphasize lies in the great advantage it is to the city, to have the clubs hold these view-days. For the citizens have the opportunity of meeting the artists and becoming better acquainted with them and their work, and gaining a keener appreciation of it than they otherwise would. While this is of course gratifying to the artists and of value to them, it is by far of greater benefit to the citizens, and will surely prove a factor in creating a truer art sense, which all large cities must have if they wish to be great as well as large. This, however, is hard to cultivate in a city so young as this, but the clubs are using their influence in every way to assist in making it possible for the coming generations to live in a more beautiful city than we of today endure, for a large city unkept and unartistic is not enjoyed—it is only endured.

MINNIE A. WATKINS.

MEAL TIME DRINKS

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"I did so for a time and got some relief but did not get entirely well so I lost patience and said: "Oh well, coffee isn't the cause of my troubles and went back to drinking it. I became worse than ever. Then Postum was prescribed. It was not made right at first and for two mornings I could hardly drink it.

"Then I had it boiled full fifteen minutes and used good cream and I had a most charming beverage.

"I fairly got fat on the food drink and my friends asked me what had happened I was so well. I was set right and cured when Postum was made right.

"I know other men here who used Postum, among others the cashier of the Security Bank and a well-known clergyman.


"My firm sells a lot of Postum and I am certainly at your service for Postum cured me of stomach trouble." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

IOWA.

ACTIVE preparations are now being made for the biennial meeting of the Iowa State Federation, which will be held in Des Moines, May 5-8. The state organization will be

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the guest of the Des Moines City Federation and every possible arrangement is being made for the comfort and pleasure of all who attend. The program for the meeting is a most attractive one. The growing interest of Iowa clubs in educational subjects, since they were last year instrumental in securing a compulsory education law, will make the Thursday morning session one of especial interest. This session will be devoted entirely to matters pertaining to education. Hon. R. C. Barrett, state superintendent of public instruction, will address the Federation, discussing the different ways in which women's clubs may aid in enforcing the compulsory education law. Other subjects to be considered at the same session are "Manual Training in the Public Schools," by the instructor in manual training of the West Des Moines High school, "Domestic Science in the Public School," by Miss Mary Sabin, professor of domestic science at the State Agricultural College. "Music and Drawing in the Public Schools" will also be discussed by specialists. Another interesting feature of the programme for Federation work will be a discussion of different phases of child labor in Iowa, presented by the state labor commissioner and by Miss Schaeffer, of the University of Iowa.

There will be an arts and crafts exhibit during the week and talks on the subject by Mrs. R. A. Patchen, of Des Moines, and Mrs. Richard Burke, of Oskaloosa.

An evening with former presidents of the Federation was a happy thought of the program committee. No better way could be chosen to signalize the tenth anniversary of the organization than to give its members an opportunity to hear again from those who have done so much to make the Federation what it is to-day.

Taken altogether the program as arranged for the four days' convention will offer something of interest to every

club, so that every delegate may carry home something of value to her home club. There will be several pleasant social affairs, including a reception at the home of Governor Cummins.

A very important development of Federation work under the present administration has been the organization of district Federations. Chairmen of each congressional district in the state were appointed, and in most districts organizations have been effected which are a success in every particular.

Meetings have been held in the second, third, fourth, fifth (two meetings) sixth, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh districts. The president of the State Federation, Mrs. W. H. Baily, of Des Moines, has been present at all but two of these and has done much by her grace and tact to make the meetings a success.

Through the influence of these district meetings some fine rural clubs have been organized, and there is a strong prospect that this phase of the work will be a very important one.

The second year book of this biennial term was issued early in the year and is one of the most complete ever issued by the Federation. Any club member who reads it carefully cannot fail to keep in touch with the state organization. Many new clubs have been added to the list, which now numbers 261 clubs, representing about 10,000 women and 146 towns. There are now twelve standing committees, each with a definite and helpful work to do, and the year book contains letters from each chairman giving information with regard to the help which may be derived by clubs from her committee.

It is a pleasant custom of the Des Moines City Federation to hold an annual banquet, when the members and their friends gather together "over the wine and walnuts." This year the second annual banquet was held the last of February, and about 150 club women and their friends were in attendance. A well presented and well executed program of toasts followed the banquet. Although only two years old this city Federation is already recognized as a power in civic affairs, bringing together for concerted action the thirty-two women's clubs of the city.

HARRIET C. TOWNER,

NEBRASKA.

CLUB workers in Nebraska during the past few months—the busy season of the club year—have been actively engaged in many phases of local and general work. The chief innovation in state work for 1902-3 has been in the methods

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of the club-extension. Vice-presidents were elected at the last annual meeting for each of the six congressional districts, their duties, as defined by the constitution being: "To have general supervision over the clubs in their respective districts, to encourage the extension of club work and the organization of local or district Federations wherever possible."

Soon after the annual meeting the state president sent out a convenient folding map of the state showing the counties and towns in each. This was followed later by a comprehensive folder, for the use of the vice-presidents, containing instructions on, "How to Organize a Club," "Benefits of Federation," a model constitution and an application blank for membership in the State Federation.

A most successful conference of both federated and unfederated clubs of the second district was held early in the year at Omaha in the Woman's Club rooms, Mrs. H. D. Neely, the able and enthusiastic vice-president of the second district being in charge. Twelve organizations were represented by double the number of delegates. There were also present, the members of the State Executive Board, Mrs. W. E. Page, president; Mrs. E. J. Hainer, vice-president; Miss Minnie Becker; recording secretary; Mrs. F. W. Miller, corresponding secretary; Mrs. T. T. Bell, treasurer; Mrs. H. M. Bushnell, auditor; Mrs. Belle M. Stoutenborough, Nebraska secretary G. F. W. C.; and four district vice presidents; Miss Rebecca Wilson, first district; Mrs. H. D. Neely, second district; Mrs. W. H. Clemons, third district; and Mrs. W. Bonekemper, fifth district; together with the executive committee of the Omaha Woman's Club and several ex-state officers and members of committees residing in Omaha.

Each one present brought from her experience something of encouragement and help and the meeting proved an inspiration and stimulus both to the "practical" tangible phases of club-work, and to those higher, less tangible, but perhaps equally practical ideals—sympathy and reciprocity—which, after all, are the best results of the club-movement. The delegates, by formal resolution, expressed to the chairman, Mrs. Neely, their appreciation of the benefits of the conference.

An enjoyable luncheon in the club rooms followed. Later in the day the visiting women were guests of the Woman's Club at its open meeting and in the evening at a lecture on "Blessed Be Humour," by J. L. Harbour of Boston; the lecture being given under the auspices of the club.

The state officers met the following morning in the parlors of the Omaha Y. W. C. A. for an all day's session. Standing committees for the year were appointed; subjects, plans and methods for the year's work were carefully considered and plans for the year book to be issued under the direction of the president and corresponding secretary discussed. Nearly all the visitors remained a second evening as guests of the Omaha club women to hear and greet Miss Jane Addams, who spoke, the lecture being one of a course given by the teachers of the city school.

January 20-21 the hospitable vice president of the first district, Miss Rebecca Wilson, of Falls City, was hostess to the several clubs of her home town and entertained at a house party a number of members of the state executive board and a few other friends. The Falls City clubs united in giving a literary and musical program, the guests upon invitation each adding a few words of club cheer, wit or wisdom.

Seven new clubs have already joined the State Federation during the year with the prospect of quite as many more.

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Several additional clubs have joined the G. F. W. C. and from present indications, Nebraska bids fair to be the banner state in the number of individual clubs having membership in the General Federation.

A meeting of the program committee called by the chairman, Mrs. Draper Smith, of Omaha, was held March 18, at the Lincoln Hotel, in Lincoln, to make preliminary arrangements for the annual meeting at Fremont the second week of October next. There were present the program committee, consisting of Mrs. Smith, Mrs. E. J. Hainer, Aurora; Mrs. Minnie Cline, Minden, and Mrs. C. J. Fordyce, University Place; Mrs. Emma C. Page, Syracuse, state president; Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor, Lincoln, chairman of civics committee; Mrs. Harriet MacMurphy of Omaha, chairman household economics; Mrs. E. L. Hinman, Lincoln, chairman of the educational committee; Mrs. S. C. Langworthy, chairman of art committee; Mrs. H. M. Bushnell, of Lincoln, state auditor; Mrs. W. H. Clemmons, of Fremont, chairman of committee on entertainment; Miss McCarn and Mrs. D. V. Stephens, representing the Fremont Woman's club, and Mrs. Archibald Scott, of Lincoln, ex-chairman of the reciprocity bureau; Mrs. C. S. Lobingier of Omaha, chairman of the industrial committee; Mrs. Alexander Stephens, of York, chairman of reciprocity bureau; Mrs. Stoutenborough, of Plattsmouth, chairman of library committee; and Mrs. Nye, of Fremont, chairman of music committee, were unable to be present.

Mrs. Smith announced that Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison had accepted an invitation to be present at the October meeting, provided satisfactory agreements could be made in regard to time, by combining with other Western states

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which Mrs. Denison plans to visit. The committee thought this could be arranged agreeably to all.

In addition to the usual presentation of all department work, the following special features were practically decided upon. A General Federation evening; a joint conference with the State Library Association; a parliamentary drill; sectional conferences in charge of the chairman of the various sub-committees and a discussion as to whether the N. F. W. C. shall be represented at the St. Louis Exposition. A social and musical evening will be given by the hostess club of Fremont. The meeting was most enthusiastic; many valuable suggestions were made and Fremont meeting promises to be one of unusual interest. The president urged that the district vice-presidents be ready to greet members from their districts, especially new-comers and those arriving early.

Strong effort was put forth by the clubs in behalf of several bills before the recent state legislature. Amendments to the compulsory education law were passed increasing the compulsory age from 14 to 15 years; making the annual minimum time of attendance twelve weeks instead of eight; while the general provision of the law requires attendance two-thirds of the time school is in session yearly in a given district, and making attendance compulsory at the state schools for the deaf, dumb and blind.

A juvenile court law was passed by both Houses of the Legislature, but was vetoed by the governor on the ground that he considered one of its sections unconstitutional.

While this with adverse action on other measures favored

by the Federation, is a keen disappointment, it will only serve to redouble the effort put forth for these measures at the next session of the Legislature

ELLA B. LOBINGIER.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Marion A. McBride.

"Sunlight is stored in every leaf."



SUNSHINE is the housekeeper's best friend and yet when country houses are bathed in light from the early gray dawn, touched with brilliant color, which opens into a golden shower, following along the glorious afternoon, till sunset touches the world with very tender light as day passes into night, this same sunshine, beautiful, positive, helpful, is in many places shut out because it "fades both furniture and carpets."

What about the women and children who live in these darkened rooms? Are they not fading for want of the health-giving brightness?

At this season when the city opens its heart to the country, one must think of these plain facts, because there are some country houses where want of sunlight and fresh air within the house, counteract the benefit one is seeking.

Typhoid fever in the country, generally comes from the sink drain and from the impure water, which may have been contaminated by the barn, or outhouse drainage.

Every country housekeeper if in doubt about her own premises, can ask her family physician or the local board of health, as to the best method of drainage and water supply protection.

One of the most picturesque and famous villages in New England, suffered for years from typhoid in summer and early autumn. Here where ancestral homes rested beneath broad sweeping elm trees, the sunshine filtered through the leaves and lay in little patches of brightness over the soft green grass. The wild flowers were luxuriant, particularly back of the houses where the drooping trees touched the blossoms and in the late summer, golden rod tall and stately, held itself in brilliant groups against the neutral tone of the farmhouse kitchen. What could produce such tall golden rod? What do you suppose? Sink drains! What produced so much typhoid fever? Sink drains. With drains carried well away from the house, entering a cesspool which is cared for, this trouble is avoided, but so many country houses have kitchens where the sink is drained by a short pipe which allows the water to fall near the house; with no strainer in the sink, much material for decomposition passes with the water and left uncovered and in deep shade, disease germs develop. Even summer sunshine would not counteract all the danger of a country drain, but it would help by drying the material and absorbing the water. When taking drives, bicycle spins or a walk, do not stop for a drink of water at every well, because the property located and good well, belongs to the well kept home. Look before you drink.

While speaking of sink and refuse, the question of house-keeping methods comes forward. What shall one do with the refuse from the table?

At Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, the waste was drained carefully, placed in the warming ovens till thoroughly dried, then burned in the fire box of the stove.

It was practical, simple, economical, but it took time and thought. That is exactly what housekeeping does, but every

woman wishes for her home, the best of results, the safest of methods and comfort in a superlative degree for the inmates of her home circle. It is the club woman who is looking after sanitary methods in town and country, following the lines which mean better, safer homes and more beautiful life. It is an easy matter to look up sanitation in every city, because the National Master Builders' have an office in nearly every city and the officers of those associations can tell one about traps and plumbing, about all building construction. Ask the men of your family where the offices are located. Mr. William H. Sayward, secretary of the National Master Builders, is also secretary of Boston Master Builders' Association, and his direct, practical advice has solved many a hard problem for Boston clubdom.

It is to these practical associations that women must go for advice. Call on your leading plumber and ask to see "traps," invite him to come or send "traps" and some one to explain them, to the "home section" of your club. You will find these practical workers, very willing to help in the most practical way and the club members will be gainers, while the plumber will gain in intelligent custom. Ask some practical architect to loan, or bring to the club a house "elevation" and study sanitation from this, following the plan of piping, matching for "traps," and all protective points along the line.

House plans are very simple and one can keep homes in order more easily if they are able to locate parts of the home system. The country home is not safer than the city home, and both call for intelligent and constant care. Let us have simple furnishing, beautiful color, fresh air and plenty of sunshine.

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VERMONT.

REPORTS from secretaries of clubs show interest and activity in practical work for school and traveling libraries, St. Johnsbury probably leading in this effort.

In this latter club the Educational Committee have arranged meetings with teachers, parents and pupils with marked beneficent results.

Other clubs have presented one or more educational programs.

The following was given in Bennington:

Education, subject, "Feathered Folk and Busy Bodies."

Reading, "Bird Life."

Paper, "How Children Are Taught to Love and Protect Birds."

Reading, "The Birds of Killingworth."

Discussion, "The Mosquito."

Paper, "Life and Work of the Ants."

Reading, "Caterpillars and Their Moths."

Paper, "Life and Work of the Honey Bee."

Windsor Club is doing its county a service by arranging for the preservation of old landmarks and records of early history.

Brattleboro, Island Pond and many other clubs are effective in unifying their interests of their respective villages and in providing opportunities for enjoyment of good music, exhibitions of art and lectures of current value.

The mid-year meeting of the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs was held at White River Junction March 19, Miss Helen Williston Smith presiding.

An invitation to the Federation to hold its next annual meeting, October 8 and 9, at St. Johnsbury, as guests of the Women's Club of that place, was accepted by the president.

The leading departments of work in the organization were discussed and committees recommended on Library and Educational Work, State Institutions, Forestry, Civic Duties, Household Economics and Early State History and Landmarks.

The lack of frequent conference between the committees of individual clubs and those of the Federation was deprecated, and an effort will be made to establish a more intimate co-operation.

THE AMHERST HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

On Saturday evening, February 21st, was held at the house of Dr. Henry Preserved Smith on College street, the first legal meeting for purposes of incorporation of the Amherst, Mass., Historical Society. It was somewhat over three years ago that this society was founded, by Mrs. Mabel Loomis Todd,

the opening meeting then being held at the headquarters in the old Strong house, built in 1744. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe was present, and gave the address, Professor Grosvenor and other members of Amherst College faculty adding interesting remarks, and since then the collection of relics in the quaint old room has been steadily increasing. As these multiplied, and it was seen that the society would be an important factor, not only in the preservation of books and engravings, documents, furniture, china and footstoves, lanterns and spinning wheels, but of town traditions as well, it was deemed best to incorporate it, thus placing the society on a solid basis.

The subscribers to the petition for incorporation numbered twenty, a majority of whom were present at the first formal meeting. Mrs. Todd called the meeting to order, the first business being the election of a chairman for the evening. Marquis F. Dickinson, Esq., of Boston, was elected; and all the necessary formalities being complied with and a set of by-laws adopted, a board of directors was elected. The list stands as follows:—

President, Mrs. Mabel Loomis Todd; Vice-President, M. F. Dickinson, Esq.; Clerk, Mrs. Belle W. Churchill; Treasurer, George Cutler, Jr.; Historian, Dr. C. S. Walker; Librarian, F. A. Hosmer; Auditor, Dr. C. S. Gates.

In the board are representatives of some of Amherst's early families; young business men of the town; the presidents of Amherst College and the National bank; the author of the town history, Mr. Morehouse; and members of both Amherst College and the State Agricultural College faculties. It is thus broad in its interests, and many-sided in its influence.

Perhaps the ideal club of the future will include men and women, and it is certain that this society cannot fail to accomplish much in the preservation of those local matters of history which are not only important in themselves, but must in time form the basis of all national history.

NEW JERSEY.

THE Forestry Department of the New Jersey State Federation has sent a circular to all the prominent clubs in the state, according to the New York "Tribune," urging them to communicate with the game and fisheries committee of the assembly on behalf of the bill proposed by Assemblyman Edgar Williams, of Orange. This bill forbids the shooting of live pigeons and other birds for sport, in the manner known as trap shooting. The measure has hitherto failed to pass. The Woman's Club of Orange and the Political Study Club, of that city, are among those which have passed resolutions in compliance with the request.

The same clubs have also indorsed the action of the Consumers' League in regard to the laws regulating child labor. The petitions to be sent to the governor and to both houses of the state legislature embody a plea for a more effectual measure restraining children under the legal act from working, and also urge that the matter be no longer left to the discretion of the factory inspectors. An additional clause indorses the act providing that children under ten years of age be prohibited from selling newspapers on the street before 7 o'clock in the morning and after 7 at night, or during school hours. Evasions of the child labor laws are very common in New Jersey, and the movement instituted by the National Consumers' League in this direction is receiving much attention from organizations of women throughout the state.

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